PRELIMINARIES, 1909

DRAWER 11

ABRAHAM LINCOLN BIRTHPLACE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

71.2009.085.05039

Kentucky

Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site

Preliminaries, 1909

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the

Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

71.2009.085.05039

LINCOLN'S BIRTHPLACE.

The Farm Purchased and to be Preserved as a Place of Historic Interest.

1894

[From the Louisville Commercial.]

It once seemed that, like Homer and Columbus, Abraham Lincoln would have several localities contending for the honor of his birth. The matter was not long allowed to remain in doubt, however, and biographers are able to point to the exact spot where the martyr President first saw the light. The recent purchase of this place, in Larue County, Kentucky, by a man who has in view the establishment of a resort of national interest, like Mount Vernon and the Hermitage, has drawn fresh attention to the backwoods settlement which gave the world so great and unique a character.

The purchaser of the property is Maj. S. P. Gross, the genius who presided over the destinies of the restaurant in the Kentucky building at the World's Fair.

Nearly sixty miles southwest from Louisville, on the C., O. and S. W. Railway, is the little town of Hodgensville. It takes four hours to run down there from this city. Hodgensville is distinctly countrified. It is visited rarely by any persons from the great world beyond, except drummers. Now and then a stray tourist makes a pilgrimage to the remarkable, but little known, farm, three miles to the southward, where the father of Lincoln settled eighty-five years ago. From Hodgensville only a country road leads out to the old homestead and the visitor finds himself under the necessity of hiring a livery rig to reach it. The country exhibits nothing remarkable in its characteristics, and the soil seems generally to be of a poor clay formation. Much of the available land has been cleared and fenced for farming purposes, and some fine places are seen.

When one looks at the surroundings no wonder is felt that Lincoln should have exhibited reticence to speak of the circumstances of his early life. There was in them no hint of future glory or honor. Even at the present day the thought of life spent in the locality is anything but attractive, notwithstanding that it lies just without the famous blue-grass region.

The Lincoln homestead was a few years ago the property of Richard Cradle, from whose heirs Maj. Gross bought it. Though originally laid off for 100 acres, it is really 110 acres in extent. As in the case of many other rudely surveyed tracts in Kentucky, a close measurement shows it contains a larger piece of territory than was intended. Most of the land has been cleared and is surrounded by a weather-worn rail fence. Of the old single-room log hut in which the President was born there remains only a heap of stones where the rough chimney stood. All else has disappeared, though the decayed stump of what is said to have been a pear tree is seen near by. A few hundred yards to the southwest there now stands a substantial farm house, which manifestly belongs to a later era. The place has been in the hands of farm tenants for several years, and shows signs of neglect Weeds have grown up around the yard and wild shrubbery in the fence corners. The house itself was vacant when visited. A more unpromising place for the birth of a great man was probably never seen, and the original dwelling was certainly scarcely better than the 14-foot square hut at Elizabethtown, in which Thomas Lincoln, the President's father, first settled upon his marriage with Nancy Hanks in 1806.

Only one living person recollects Lincoln in the days of his childhood spent in Larue County. This is an aged farmer who still resides in that locality. His name is Austin Gollaher. For decades past he has been the single surviving eye-witness of occurrences in those early days of the future President's career. Mr. Gollaher takes pleasure in recounting how on one occasion, when he was 9 years of age and Lincoln but 7, he fished the latter out of Knob Creek, a considerable stream of the locality. The future President had fallen in while the boys were crossing the stream on a foot log and was in imminent danger of drowning.

Although not communicative on the subject of his early life, Lincoln, it seems, always retained a tenderness for his birthplace. On one occasion in 1864, J. H. Rodman, the father of D. M. Rodman, an attorney of this city, went to Washington as one of the Commissioners from Larue County to expostulate against a fresh conscription, Larue having already furnished more than its quota of men to the Union army. On hearing the circumstances Lincoln at once signed the order granting the relief asked for. In the same conversation he told Mr Rodman he was born in Hardin County, a portion of which, including the Lincoln homestead, in 1843 was erected into Larue.

Another point of almost as great interest as the President's birthplace is the farm to which Thomas Lincoln moved when his son was but 4 years old. It is but a few miles distant on Knob Creek. Here the family dwelt for three years and thence removed to Indiana.

Just what the place cost Maj. Gross is a quasi-secret. It is said, however, not to have been above $3000. Maj. Gross proposes to rescue the place from its oblivion and make it a point where the sightseer can find something to repay him for the trouble of a visit. Exactly what his plans are he will not divulge, though it is generally supposed he has some expectation, after having improved the place, of disposing of it to the Government.

Birthplace Collection

WILL SELL LINCOLN FARM

Old Home of Martyred President to Be Disposed Of for Taxes.

[Special Telegram.] 1902

EVANSVILLE, Ind., March 14.—The old Lincoln farm, in the heart of Lincoln City, Spencer county, will in a few days be sold for delinquent taxes. For years the taxes on the farm have not been paid and the county officials decided the best thing to do was to offer the farm for sale. Attempts heretofore have been made to turn the farm into a park and it has been proposed that congress make an appropriation for this purpose.

The old cottage that stood on the farm and in which Abraham Lincoln lived was removed to New York many years ago and was sold for several thousand dollars. The commissioners of Spencer county have received many letters from people over the country wanting to buy the farm, and bidders doubtless will be numerous when the tax sale is held. The mother of Lincoln is buried on the farm. The burial lot is kept in good condition by the commissioners. The county received a deed for the lot several years ago.

The late Governor Mount of this state was an advocate of turning the farm into a park and brought the matter to the attention of the legislature, but nothing was done.

LINCOLN'S OLD KENTUCKY HOME.

Sale of the Farm on Which the Martyr President Was Born. 1894

Special Dispatch to the Globe-Democrat.

LOUISVILLE, KY., December 1.—The farm upon which President Lincoln was born, in Larue County, has been purchased by A. W. Dennett, a wealthy New Yorker. The price paid was $3000. As the new owner expects to erect a hotel on the place at once, it is quite probable that he will more than make his money back during the National G. A. R. encampment next year. While Mr. Dennett has not as yet decided what improvements he will make, nor as to the final disposition of the property, it is a settled fact that the farm will at no distant day be converted into a public park, and will be so improved as to attract thousands of visitors every year.

Mr. Dennett has decided to make preliminary improvements early and this work will begin at once. The old rail fence will be removed, and a new fence put around the entire farm. All the underbrush and briars will be cut out, disturbing many a rabbit and quail, and the farm will be put in grass. Between now and next summer a pavilion will be erected on the farm for the accommodation of the visitors from the ranks of the old soldiers who will come here while attending the 1895 G. A. R. encampment, arrangements having already been made by the Commercial Club for excursion trains to Hodginville at that time.

LINCOLNS BIRTHPLACE

A Movement on Foot to Convert It Into a Park. 1894

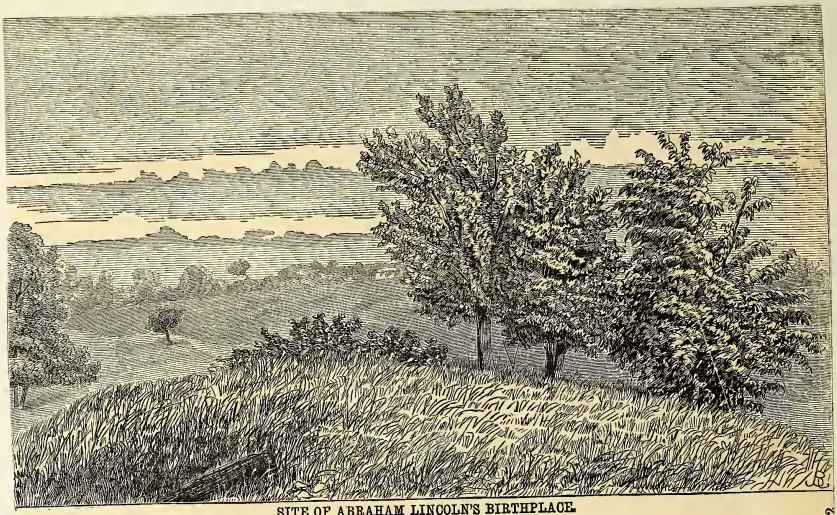
Barboursville, Ky., Feb. 27.—A party of patriotic Kentucklans are taking steps to purchase the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln, in La Rue County, Kentucky, and convert it into a park. Negotiations are about completed, and work will be begun early in the spring.

TO KEEP LINCOLN HOMESTEAD.

County Gets Tax Payment Contributed by a New Yorker. 1902

Special Dispatch to The Inter Ocean.

HODGEVILLE, Ky., March 8.—The old Lincoln homestead, near this place, will not be sold at public sale for taxes, as has been advertised by the sheriff of the county. A letter to Sheriff Collins from David Crear of New York city inclosed a check for the amount of taxes due on the property. Other letters and telegrams came from various parts of the country, but all the writers except Mr. Crear expressed a desire to become the owner of the farm. Some offered suggestions as to the proper use to be made of the birthplace of the great emancipator.



SITE OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S BIRTHPLACE.

The House stood in front of the Pear Trees, which were planted by his Father.

POSTPONE LINCOLN CEREMONY.

Dedication of Memorial at Hodgenville, Ky., Not to Be Held Until Fall.

NEW YORK, May 8.—Dedication of the Lincoln memorial at Hodgenville, Ky., has been postponed until some date not yet named, but which will not be earlier than next fall.

The Grand Army of the Republic wishes to devote Memorial Day, the date originally chosen, to the observances for which it was named. Then the railways, believing they will be called on to carry very heavy traffic on Memorial Day, suggested that some other day would be preferable. A formal announcement will be made in the course of a fortnight.

President Taft and former President Roosevelt have both been asked to speak at the dedication of the memorial.

1911

To Perpetuate the Name of Lincoln.

Special Dispatch to the Globe-Democrat.

LOUISVILLE, KY., February 2.—The home where Abraham Lincoln first saw the light of day has been sold to a syndicate of which Maj. S. P. Gross, now of Washington City, but formerly a Kentuckian, is the head. Maj. Gross had the dining-room privileges in the Kentucky building at the World's Fair, and is well known all over the State. The deal was engineered by a prominent Louisville attorney. Mr. Lincoln's old home is now called Lincoln Springs, and is about three miles south of Hodgenville, in Larue County, which some years ago was cut off from the old County of Hardin. It is the intention of the purchasers to improve the farm and replace as near as possible the cabin in which the ex-President was born. The place will be a public resort, and the gentlemen who have just secured the property do not expect to be remunerated, but simply purchased it for the patriotic purpose of perpetuating the name and memory of Lincoln. A movement will be instituted for the formation of an association similar to the Hermitage, Jackson's Home, and Mount Vernon, the place where the immortal George Washington's ashes repose. The idea is to turn it over to the Government, which will be expected to erect a monument fitting to mark the place of the birth of so illustrious a citizen.

1854

Lincoln Memorial Dedicated.

The noble granite temple enshrining the cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born was dedicated on the Lincoln farm near Hodgenville, Ky., Thursday, in the presence of 10,000 spectators from every section of the nation. President Taft, Gov. Willson of Kentucky, former Gov. Folk of Missouri, Senator Borah and others made addresses. The temple was erected by the Lincoln Farm Association, which gathered popular subscriptions for that purpose under the initial impetus of Robert Collier, who made a large contribution and saved the old cabin and farm from public sale.

11.14.1911

1898

LINCOLN'S BIRTHPLACE.

Poverty and Desolation Wafted on the Famous Baby.

Abraham Lincoln, the great war President, was born in Larue (then Hardin) County, Kentucky, in a rude little log cabin, says St. Nicholas. This cabin has recently been restored and so far as possible made exactly as it was eighty-eight years ago, when a little baby boy was born to Thomas and Nancy Lincoln, or "Linkhorn," as the name was then spelled—humble "settlers," who had moved to the neighborhood from Washington County four years before.

The few living people who remember Thomas Lincoln, the father, say that he was a rather improvident man, not working long at any one thing. He was a hard worker, but was a poor manager, and the little family was often without more than the simplest necessaries of life. Thomas Lincoln cleared a few acres around his cabin and raised a small crop of corn and grain. Then he became a carpenter and tinker, working at such odd jobs as he could find among the pioneer neighbors. He was away at work at the time Abraham was born.

The neighbors heard that Mrs. Lincoln was in the cabin all alone with the little baby and had little to eat except corn and potatoes. They at once visited the Lincoln cabin, taking such delicacies as their houses afforded. The father returned in a few days and the baby was named Abraham Lincoln, after his grandfather, who had been killed by the Indians when Thomas Lincoln was a little boy.

193

LINCOLN AND DAVIS CABIN.

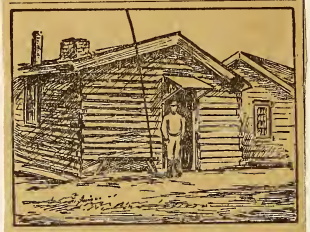
NEW YORK, March 23.—By an odd accident, the cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born and another cabin of logs, which was associated with the life of Jefferson Davis, have become mixed up and timbers of both structures now make up a single building. The revelation of this fact came about through the efforts of Rev. Dr. Dwight Hillis, pastor of Plymouth Church, to add to the Beecher Memorial Fund.

The cabin was on exhibition at the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo. It is owned by Frederick Thompson and Elmer S. Dundy, amusement promoters.

1951

LOG CABINS OF LINCOLN AND DAVIS.

In the "Old Plantation," a feature of the Midway at the Pan-American Exposition, there are on exhibition two log cabins. One is the house in which Abraham Lincoln was born. The other is the hovel in which Jeff Davis, President of the Confederacy, first saw the light of day. Of the thousands of people who flock to see these quaint relics few know the vicissitudes of the cabins



JEFF DAVIS' BIRTHPLACN.

since their removal from the ground which they once consecrated, and the struggle on the part of the exhibitors to gain possession of them for exhibition.

The Lincoln cabin was sold by Rev. J. W. Bingham, of Marion County, Kentucky, together with ten acres of ground, to A. W. Dennett, of New York dairy kitchen fame. The exhibitors made a search for Mr. Dennett and found him at the Trinidad Gold Mines, in Placer County, California. A lease was secured from Mr. Dennett, who gave an order for the removal of the cabin, then stored in the cellar of a Bowery restaurant. The determined exhibitor peentrated the cellar and found the cabin in a state of chaos, piled up in one corner. He started to load the logs upon a truck, there being, it was said, ninety-two. But after these were carted away it was found that a great many more logs remained. As the exhibitor had orders to take all the logs, he did so, finding that the second set of logs were of an entirely different kind of wood.

LINCOLN'S BIRTHPLACE.

Investigations disclosed the fact that the second set of logs comprised the birth cabin of the late Jefferson Davis, the latter having been absolutely lost track of them in recent years.

The fact that was that both the Lincoln and the Davis cabin were exhibited at the Tennessee Centennial, at Nashville, in 1897, and when the Lincoln cabin was shipped to New York and stored, the Davis cabin was sent with it, unknown even to the owner. The two cabins have been set up on desirable sites and furnished throughout as they were in olden times, many interesting relics of the great leaders being on exhibition.

Source Rpt

1901

Use for Lincoln's Old Home.

Lincoln's old home, near Hodgensville, Kentucky, will probably be converted into a home for ex-slaves. Such is the plan of Thomas T. Thomas, a wealthy negro and ex-slave, who has entered into negotiations with David Crear, of New York city, the present owner of the farm, for the purchase of the birthplace of the great emancipator. Should Mr. Crear decide to keep the farm he will offer the free use of it for the building of a home for ex-slaves. The logs comprising the original cabin, in which the ex-president was born, which are at present on exhibition at the Pan-American exposition, will be brought back to the farm and erected on the site of its original location. Additional land will be purchased and cultivated to supply provisions for the ex-slaves.

LINCOLN'S LOG CABIN.

It Has Become a Feature of Expositions.

The little log cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born is no longer upon the place. During the Nashville exposition it was carried down there, and since that time it has been a regular feature at all affairs of this kind. Its latest journey was to Buffalo in 1901, and I understand that it is still there. The place where it originally stood is a high, barren hilltop, and the exact spot is now marked by a rude flagpole. Thomas Lincoln was undoubtedly determined in building his cabin there by the spring of delicious cold water that pours through a cavern at the foot of the hill. The spring is at the bottom of a sink-hole, where the underlying limestone rock has given way and left a rocky chasm about a dozen feet deep. The break exposes an outjutting ledge on one side, while on the other is a steep slope of earth and shattered stone, and close around grow numerous bushes and trailing vines and a few fine trees that cast a pleasant shade on the hollow. How many times Lincoln's mother must have toiled up the hill from this spring with her waterbucket, and how often the little boy must have toddled down to this cool retreat and dabbled in the flowing water? The spot is a favorite resort for pleasure parties for miles around. Indeed, these parties constitute the bulk of visitors to the shrine; yet in spite of its comparative inaccessibility, an occasional stranger from a distant state makes a pilgrimage to this lonely Kentucky pasture.—Woman's Home Companion.

1903

LINCOLN'S BIRTHPLACE.

Nebraska State Journal 1909

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 11.—To the Editor of The Journal: I saw the rude log cabin in which Lincoln was born, in October, 1862.

It was a few days after the battle of Perryville, Kentucky, when in the early afternoon we approached a low one story log cabin on our left. A rail fence ran along in front, and on one corner was stuck a cracker box lid on which was chalked, "Birthplace of President Lincoln." An officer of high rank sat on his horse nearby, and as each company came up, he would point to the cabin and say, "In that house President Lincoln was born."

Our guns were at a "right shoulder shift," and whether it was at the command of the captain, I have forgotten, but the men saluted by lifting their caps as they marched by.

The chimney was at the end of the building we were approaching, and was built of splints or sticks and daubed with mud.

The roof was of clapboards and held in place by poles laid lengthwise, which required no nails and was the common method of the early pioneers.

There was a door and a square window on the side facing the road, and some of the logs had the appearance of being much decayed.

A pear tree stood at the farther end of the building, but its inviting fruit remained unmolested.

There was no cheering as we marched past, as though every soldier was awed at the sight of the lowly place of birth of their chief, the foremost man of the nation.

The pictures I have seen of the Lincoln house appear to have been taken long after the war.

ROBERT HARVEY, D, 74nd.

SCENES AT ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S BIRTHPLACE, ADVERTISED FOR SALE FOR TAXES.

VIEW OF ROCK SPRING FARM

ROCK SPRING

ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S birthplace, which is advertised for sale for taxes, is a farm near Hodgenville, Larue County, Ky. Thomas Lincoln had bought a farm on the big south fork of Nolan Creek in 1803, and he removed thither after the birth of his daughter. The home in which the emancipator first saw the light was the ordinary one of the poor western pioneer—a one-roomed log cabin with a huge outside chimney, a single window and a rude door. An old friend of the family has testified that the Lincolns had a cow and a calf, milk and butter, home-woven "kiverlids," big and little pots, a loom and wheel and a good feather bed. The cabin in which Lincoln was born was transferred to Central Park, New York, some years ago. At one time there was talk of making the farm a government park by an expenditure of $1,000,000, and an eastern syndicate bought the property. The Lincoln family moved to another farm fifteen miles distant four years after the birth of Abraham. The Lincoln farm has long been an object of public interest.

Farm Where Lincoln Was Born is on Market.

The old farm where Abraham Lincoln was born has not only been advertised for sale to satisfy the claim of a few dollars that the state of Kentucky has against it for unpaid taxes, but an enterprising individual from Chicago has his plans perfected whereby he proposes to bid it in, and to build an institution for the treatment of drunkards and morphine fiends upon the spot where the great martyr was born, writes Clifton Johnson in the Woman's Home Companion.

The old Lincoln farm, consisting of 110 acres, is in Larue county, Ky. It is three miles out of the quaint old village of Hodgensville, on the Lincoln and Magnolia highway, which is only called a road by courtesy, as for eight months out of the year it is almost impassable.

A poorer country perhaps does not exist in the world, and this farm is, in all probability, the most forlorn spot in it. As one approaches it through a lane obstructed by fallen fences, the stunted and broken cedars, the tangle of sassafras and briers, all proclaim that they are emissaries to warn the unsuspecting of the utter worthlessness of the spot.

The little log cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born is no longer upon the place. During the Nashville exposition it was carried down there and since that time has been a regular feature at all the affairs of this kind. Its latest journey was to Buffalo in 1901.

The place where it originally stood is a high, barren hilltop, and the exact spot is marked by a rude flagpole. Thomas Lincoln was undoubtedly determined in building his cabin there by the spring of delicious cold water that pours through a cavern at the foot of the hill.

The spring is at the bottom of a sink hole, where the underlying limestone rock has given way and left a rocky chasm about a dozen feet deep. The break exposes an out-jutting ledge on one side; while on the other is a steep slope of earth and shattered stone, and close around grow numerous bushes and trailing vines and a few fine trees that cast a pleasant shadow on the hollow.

How many times Lincoln's mother must have toiled up the hill from this spring with her water bucket and how often the little boy must have toddled down to this cool retreat and dabbled in the flowing water!

This spot is the only one on the farm which is not utterly desolate and mournful beyond the belief of anyone who has not visited the place.

For a long time there was serious question as to whether this was the Lincoln cabin—and there is more than one place in the community which yet claims the honor—but the matter was long ago settled in a way that leaves no doubt whatever that the flagpole marks the place where stood the cabin to which, on June 17, 1806, Thomas Lincoln brought the handsome Nancy Hanks as his bride, and where, on Feb 12, 1809, Abraham Lincoln was born.

Where Lincoln Was Born.

The farm on which Abraham Lincoln was born is to be sold at master commissioner's sale. Some years ago the farm was sold by Alfred W. Dennette to David Crear, and proceedings have been instituted to set aside the sale.

The farm, in La Rue county, Kentucky, three miles from Hodgensville, was purchased by Thomas Lincoln in 1803, but he did not locate upon it until 1808. Then he built the cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born, but left it and moved to a farm fifteen miles away on Knob creek when his son was four years old. It was the latter, not the Hodgensville farm, that Abraham Lincoln remembered as his home in Kentucky.

The house on the Hodgensville farm was a one-room log cabin, no worse and no better than the cabins of Lincoln's neighbors. It was torn down years ago, but some New York gentlemen, learning that the logs had not been destroyed, had the cabin restored, and later it was taken to the Buffalo exposition.

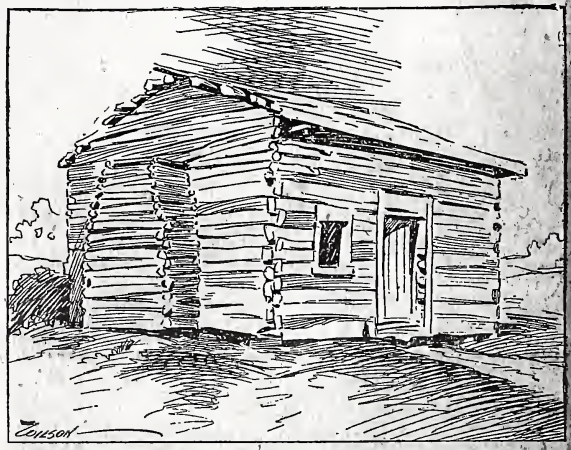
The people of the United States never have been greatly interested in the Hodgensville farm. As in the case of Washington and Jefferson, interest has centered in the home associated with Lincoln's active life as a man. The people turn to Mount Vernon, to Monticello, to Springfield, rather than to the houses in which Washington, Jefferson, and Lincoln were born.

Lincoln's boy life was more closely associated with Indiana than with Kentucky, and his life as a man was almost wholly associated with the development of Illinois. He remembered his father's home on Knob creek, Kentucky, treasured recollections of the home in Indiana, and of the first home of the family in Illinois, but he rarely referred to Rock Spring farm, on which he was born.

However, every home of Abraham Lincoln is of interest to the American people. His birthplace on Rock Spring farm is marked by a flag pole; it should be marked by a monument, and then it would not matter how many controversies arose as to the ownership of the farm. Whoever owns it will care the more for it because it is the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln.

LINCOLN'S BIRTHPLACE IS SOLD—KENTUCKY FARM UNDER HAMMER

HOUSE IN WHICH ABRAHAM LINCOLN WAS BORN.



Rock Spring farm in Laure county, Kentucky, on which this historic log cabin stands, was sold at public auction recently.
(Reproduced from Ida M. Tarbell's "Early Life of Lincoln," published by S. S. McClure, New York, 1896.)

Rock Spring farm, on which Abraham Lincoln was born, has been sold by Commissioner Handley for $3,600. R. J. Collier of New York was the purchaser. There were three other bidders on the property, John E. Burton, of Philadelphia; W. D. Frost, of Chicago, and E. J. McDermott, of Louisville, representing New York interests.

Mr. Collier will get possession in December. He has not yet decided what he will do with it, and probably it was bought as an investment.

The farm contains 110 acres and the price was not much more than the property is worth for farming purposes. Just previous to the sale Chicago parties telegraphed to have the farm bought for them, but the arrangements could not be perfected in time.

Since the birth of Lincoln, on February 12, 1809, the farm had changed hands only twice. Thomas Lincoln, the father of the President, sold the land to Richard Creel about the time the Lincoln family moved to Indiana. The property continued in the hands of this family until something like fifteen years ago, when A. W. Dennette, of New York, bought the place for $3,500.

During the last decade or so many attempts have been made to perfect plans looking to the converting of the property into a national park, and, while these efforts have aroused some comment, nothing substantial has resulted.

The farm derives its name from a large spring about 100 yards from the log cabin in which Lincoln was born. In its present state the tract is cut by a broad picturesque thoroughfare. Two miles on the north is this village, typical of Kentucky, with a population of about 1,000. A branch of the Illinois Central connects the town with the outside world, and a combination freight and passenger train makes two trips daily to Cecilia, seventeen miles away.

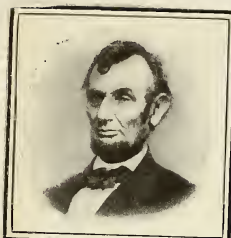
The records of Hardin county show that the farm was bought by Thomas Lincoln in 1803 with funds which he had earned as a carpenter. Thomas Lincoln was not yet 25, showing that he was a man possessed of more than ordinary thrift, instead of careless and shiftless, as some biographers have depicted him.

MANY WANT LINCOLN FARM.

New Yorker Buys the Birthplace of the Great Emancipator at Sheriff's Sale.

HODGENVILLE, Aug. 28.—Abraham Lincoln's birthplace, a 110 acre farm, was today sold at auction to R. J. Collier of New York for $3,600.

The property was sold by order of court in the bankruptcy case of A. W. Dennette of New York, who had purchased it 15 years ago from the Creal family, into whose hands it came at the time the Lincoln family removed from the state. John E. Burton of Philadelphia and W. D. Frost of Chicago were also bidders at today's sale.



President Roosevelt says:

*"I heartily approve of the movement to make the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln a National Park, so that the building in which he was born may be preserved to illustrate the real conditions of his birth and childhood. * * * * * Lincoln's memory, like Washington's, is one of the hallowed and priceless heritages of all our people. I am glad that the scheme of preservation contemplates an appeal to individual Americans." * * * * * * *

Join The Lincoln Farm Association!

This Association, composed of more than 20,000 patriotic American men and women, asks you individually, and every man, woman, and child who cherishes and reveres the memory of Lincoln, to fill in the blank below and mail it to-day.

The Lincoln Birthplace Farm and the old cabin have been rescued from the hands of those who wished to exploit them for private gain, and it remains for you, as one of the American people, to take your part in the work of making this farm a Lincoln National Park—an enduring patriotic memorial to a great citizen.

No large contribution is desired or will be accepted. This is to be a work of the whole people. Every contributor will be made an Honorary Member of the Association, without liability to any further dues or assessments.

Send any amount you can afford from 25 cents to $25.00

It is not the amount, but the spirit in which it is given, that counts.

As soon as your contribution is received, a handsomely engraved membership Certificate will be mailed you, having on it your name, a portrait of Lincoln, the autographs of the Trustees, and the Seal of the Association.

Your name will also be entered in the Permanent Catalogue to be kept in a place of honor at the park. The amount of your contribution will not be made public.

Join the Association to-day! Help to make this the greatest of our national memorials.

THE LINCOLN FARM ASSOCIATION

Clarence H. Mackay, Treasurer — 74 Broadway, New York

Board of Trustees

Joseph W. Folk, Pres. — Clarence H. Mackay, Treas. — Richard Lloyd Jones, Sec.

Joseph H. Choate
Henry Watterson
Cardinal Gibbons
Edward M. Shepard
August Belmont
William H. Taft
Lyman J. Gage
Norman Hapgood
Ida M. Tarbell
Horace Porter
William T. Jerome
Jenkin Lloyd Jones
Charles A. Towne
Samuel L. Clemens
Albert Shaw
Thomas Hastings
Robert J. Collier
Augustus Saint-Gaudens

THE LINCOLN FARM ASSOCIATION

CLARENCE H. MACKAY, Treasurer — 74 BROADWAY, NEW YORK CITY

Enclosed find ..... *as my contribution to the Lincoln Farm Fund.*

Please send certificate to

Name .....

Address .....

REED

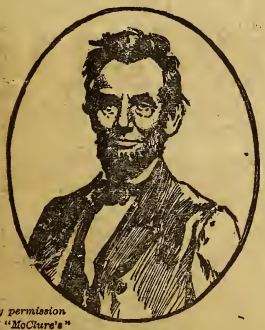
A Birthplace Worth Saving

By MARK TWAIN

Mark Twain

There is a natural human instinct that is gratified by the sight of anything hallowed by association with a great man or with great deeds. So people make pilgrimages to the town whose streets were once trodden by Shakespeare, and Hartford guarded her Charter Oak for centuries because it had once had a hole in it that helped to save the liberties of a colony. But in most cases the connection between the great man or the great event and the relic we revere is accidental. Shakespeare might have lived in any other town as well as in Stratford, and Connecticut's charter might have been hidden in a woodchuck hole as well as in the Charter Oak. But it was no accident that planted Lincoln on a Kentucky farm, half-way between the Lakes and the Gulf. The association there had substance in it. Lincoln belonged just where he was put. If the Union was to be saved, it had to be a man of such an origin that should save it. No wintry New England Brahmin could have done it, or any torrid cotton-planter, regarding the distant Yankee as a species of obnoxious foreigner. It needed a man of the Border, where civil war meant the grapple of brother with brother and disunion a raw and gaping wound. It needed one who knew slavery not from books only, but as a living thing, knew the good that was mixed with its evil, and knew the evil not merely as it affected the negroes, but in its hardly less baleful influence upon the poor whites. It needed one who knew how human all the parties to the quarrel were, how much alike they were at bottom, who saw them all reflected in himself, and felt their dissensions like the tearing apart of his own soul. When the war came Georgia sent an army in gray and Massachusetts an army in blue, but Kentucky raised armies for both sides. And this man, sprung from Southern poor whites, born on a Kentucky farm and transplanted to an Illinois village, this man, in whose heart knowledge and charity had left no room for malice, was marked by Providence as the one to "bind up the nation's wounds." His birthplace is worth saving.

The above article by the great American author and humorist refers to the movement on foot to make of the Lincoln Birthplace Farm a national park of patriotism. Considering the preservation of Mount Vernon, the Washington Monument the classic tomb of Grant, and the score of other memorials to lesser heroes of our Republic, it is really a remarkable instance of national neglect



By permission of "McClure's".

Abraham Lincoln

that more than forty years should have passed without a fitting tribute to the memory of Lincoln, who bore the heaviest burden ever carried by an American President and fell in harness, a victim of assassination. There is no knowing when any action would have been taken had it not been that the Lincoln Birthplace Farm was put up at auction in August, 1905, that the proceeds might be used to pay the back taxes. All but one of the bidders represented some business concern, anxious to get control of the property for advertising purposes; but this one bidder saved the farm and averted what would have been a national disgrace. He represented a private citizen, who believed the historic ground should be the property of the American people, and, having acquired the place, he turned it over to an association of public-spirited men, who quickly organized and determined to develop it into a Lincoln National Park that should stand forever as a shrine of patriotism and peace, a fitting memorial to the great citizen who was born there.

The farm is ideal for such a purpose. Consisting of one hundred and ten acres in the rolling blue-grass region of Larue County, Kentucky, it is crossed by a picturesque stream, has many shady groves, and possesses the famous rock spring near which it is proposed that the Lincoln statue shall be erected. But a short distance away, along the turnpike, stands the old mill where Lincoln used to go with his father, the boy seated astride a sack of corn on the broad back of the old mare. When the park is developed it is said that the Louisville & Nashville Railroad will establish a branch terminal near the entrance.

The plan of the Lincoln Farm Association is very simple, and seems to have been inspired by a profound belief in the individual patriotism of American men and women. Instead of appealing to a wealthy few to carry out the work, the Association has given its cause to the whole people, asking "every man, woman, and child in whose heart is the love of country and a reverence for the memory of Lincoln" to become a member. Each member is called upon to contribute whatever amount he or she wishes, provided it is not less than twenty-five cents or more than twenty-

Saint-Gaudens' Lincoln

It has been suggested that above the famous Rock Spring from which Lincoln drank as a boy, a copy of Saint-Gaudens' famous Statue of Lincoln be erected

five dollars, and to every member is issued a large, handsomely engraved Certificate of Membership, bearing the seal of the Association, with the autographs of the officers and trustees. The name of the member is then entered in the Permanent Catalog, which is to be kept forever in a place of honor in the Historical Building to be erected at the Park. Thus the funds are being raised by popular membership subscriptions, and already the names are coming in by hundreds from every State in the Union, more than fifteen thousand having joined before November 1. The labor unions, fraternal orders, historical societies, women's clubs, and organizations of all sorts have pledged themselves to spread the work during the coming winter, and seventy-five per cent of the daily news-

papers, recognizing the broadly democratic spirit and typical Americanism of the movement, have promised to give the tremendous weight of publicity to it.

The Officers and Board of Trustees of The Lincoln Farm Association, which has its offices at 74 Broadway, New York City, are as follows:

Joseph W. Folk, President, Governor of Missouri; Joseph H. Choate, Ex-Ambassador to England; Henry Watterson, editor of Louisville "Courier-Journal"; Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop of Baltimore; Edward M. Shepard, lawyer and author; August Belmont, director of Louisville & Nashville R. R.; Horace Porter, Ex-Ambassador to France; William Travers Jerome, District Attorney of New York County; Jenkin Lloyd Jones, Director Lincoln Centre, Chicago; Charles A. Towne, Congressman from New York; William H. Taft, Secretary of War; Lyman J. Gage, Ex-Secretary of Treasury; Norman Hapgood, of "Collier's"; Ida M. Tarbell, biographer of Lincoln; Samuel L. Clemens ("Mark Twain"); Augustus Saint-Gaudens, sculptor; Albert Shaw, editor of "Review of Reviews"; Thomas Hastings, architect; Robert J. Collier, of "Collier's"; Clarence Mackay, Treasurer, President Postal Telegraph & Cable Co.; Richard Lloyd Jones, Secretary.

BIRTHPLACE OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN.
Nolin Creek, Kentucky.
Brown's Pictures—Miniature—725.

This cabin, in which Lincoln was born, has been recovered by the Lincoln Farm Association and will forever be preserved in the new Memorial Hall

RESTORING THE LINCOLN CABIN TO THE OLD FARM

The Lincoln birthplace logs on trucks in New York, ready to be loaded on the train

The logs on the train, guarded by Kentucky militia sent by Governor Beckham

The cabin in which Lincoln was born had been taken apart, exhibited by a showman, and then stored in a warehouse in New York. It was bought by the Lincoln Farm Association and sent back to Kentucky, where it will be set up on the original site. On the way it was received with official civil and military honors in Philadelphia, Baltimore, Harrisburg, Pittsburg, Columbus, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, and other cities. It is now in Louisville

June 1906

REED

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1907

¶ A year ago this week the Lincoln Farm Association, which was organized to make a national memorial and historic park of the farm upon which Abraham Lincoln was born, made its first appeal to the American people. Collier's believes that in this anniversary number nothing of wider interest to its readers could be published than a brief review of the first year's work of the Association, and such stories as emphasize the human side of the nation's great hero, whose memory the Association proposes to honor. In our Lincoln Number, a year ago, we pictured by photograph the actual condition of this historic little farm as it looked at the time when this new patriotic association acquired it for national uses. In this issue we try to picture the farm as it may be developed by this Association. The Association to-day has a membership of over twenty thousand patriotic Americans, whose average subscription has been a little over $1.40. The subscriptions and applications for membership have been increasing with each succeeding month, which is both a hopeful and a wholesome sign, until we find the close of the first year of the Association bringing into its treasurer's office an average of about $1,000 a week.

¶ The Lincoln Farm Association, because of this growing interest on the part of the American public in this patriotic movement, has reason to believe that with the country's unprecedented prosperity at this time membership will increase in this Association so rapidly that the close of the second year of the Association will find the treasury of the society possessed of, approximately, one million dollars. This is the hope of the Board of Trustees.

¶ With this money the Association proposes to make this national park express in every way, through its forests, its tilled fields, its monuments, its historic log cabin, and its beautiful historic museum, the frontier life of the yeomanry who paved the way for our larger national life and into which Abraham Lincoln was born.

¶ All this must be completed and in readiness within two years from this week, when the centennial of Lincoln's birth will be celebrated on the grounds. The Lincoln Farm Association proposes to make this centennial celebration one of the most significant and inspiring events in American history. To accomplish this, they must appeal to the patriotic sympathies of every American citizen. That the Association may be purely democratic, and receive the support of all the people, rather than the wealthy few, subscriptions are limited to $25.00 and membership is given to those who subscribe as little as 25 cents. By sending any amount ranging within these sums, as a subscription, to the treasurer of the Lincoln Farm Association a certificate of membership will be issued in the name of the subscriber and promptly forwarded. The certificates of membership, as described on page 13 of this issue, are handsomely engraved from steel plates, bearing a portrait of Lincoln, a picture of the log cabin in which he was born, and the White House as it appeared when he occupied it; it also bears the autographs of the officers and trustees and the seal of the Association.

¶ To become a member, send your name and address, plainly written, with contribution, to Mr. Clarence H. Mackay, Treasurer of The Lincoln Farm Association, 74 Broadway, New York City.

REED

Colliers Feb 9 1907

1908

LINCOLN FARM A SHRINE

Progress of Plans for Museum at President's Birthplace.

Great souls are rarer than centuries. Out from the heritage of time there stand three to whose memory, as to a shrine, every true American pays homage. These three are Columbus, who alone defied the ridicule of all mankind and set out on an unknown sea to find a world; Washington, who built a free government that should safeguard the liberties of men; and Lincoln, who lived that this government of the people, by the people and for the people might not perish from the earth.

No future historian will ever have the temerity to estimate Abraham Lincoln, the savior of our nation, as the least of this great trio. Like Columbus and Washington, he looms higher and greater in the perspective of time. He was the gentlest of all great souls. We are today only twelve months away from the centennial of Abraham Lincoln's birth.

Recognizing the patriotic significance of this centennial, a group of American citizens two years ago organized and incorporated under the laws of the state of New oYrk the Lincoln farm association, which purposed to make of Lincoln's humble birthplace a national shrine, and on the 100th anniversary of his birth to dedicate it to the American people as the abiding symbol of the opportunity with which democracy endows its men.

Through the generosity of one of its directors the association, almost at its inception, acquired the full title to the Lincoln birthplace farm and the rude little cabin in which he was born. Thus equipped, the association began its preparations for an appropriate national celebration on February 12, 1909. That some sort of an enduring memorial should be placed on this historic ground all were agreed. The Lincoln farm association opened its offices and headquarters at No. 74 Broadway, in New York city, and from there made public announcement of its purpose. Every American was earnestly invited to cooperate by contributing as he could. The directors kept their plans before the American public, and the membership multiplied in every commonwealth and community, until today the Lincoln farm association represents upward of seventy thousand patriotic souls.

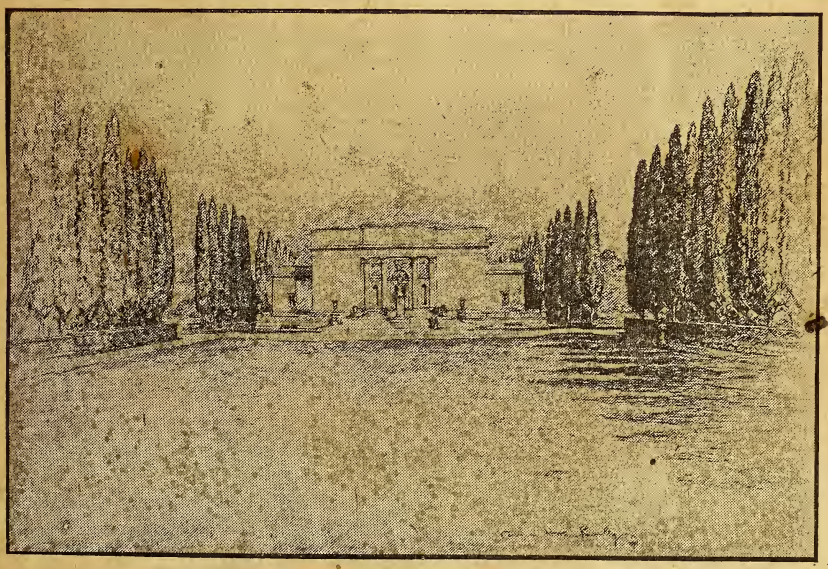
In the two years' history of the Lincoln farm association the programme for the centennial has taken very full and concrete form. It was decided by the association's executive committee to build on the birthplace farm, which is in the geographic center of the state of Kentucky, a memorial museum, which is to cost about $250,000, and which will tell the story of the early yoemanry life out of which Lincoln came. This museum will house as its central object of interest, the weather-worn little log cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born. The farm, a rough little patch of 110 acres, bisected by the old Louisville and Nashville pike, will be kept a farm, growing corn and squash, bluegrass and grain, as it has always done since the day that Thomas Lincoln took his little family to venture into the wilderness beyond the broad Ohio. On these broken and uneven acres Lincoln's countrymen will lay their tribute; a broad green plaza, with the memorial hall at one end and a simple shaft at the other, to mark the ground on which stood the first home of him "whose memory is the strongest, tenderest tie that binds all hearts together now, and holds all states beneath the nation'h flag."

To secure a thoroughly appropriate plan for this memorial museum and its setting the executive committee of the Lincoln Farm association held an architectural competition, inviting several prominent architects to submit plans that would incorporate architects to submit plans that would incorporate the programme set forth by the association. John Russel Pope, a New York architect ,was awarded the commission. The building will be constructed of Tennessee marble and fireproof material throughout. It will contain a central court, over which will be built a moveable roof, and in which the birthplace cabin will be restored.

Around this will be the museum halls, the main room being convertible into an auditorium for the use of any patriotic gatherings that may choose to use it in this way. Once every year at least, ont the 12th day of each February, the national will hold in this hall the central incoln's birthday celebration.—Richard Lloyd Jones, in Collier's Weekly.

LY TIMES, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1908. Hartford Weekly

The Lincoln Farm Memorial in Kentucky.



MEMORIAL BUILDING,
Enclosing Lincoln Cabin, Relics and Cabinet of Donators' Names.

Forty-three years after his tragic death a plan has been adopted for enshrining the memory of Abraham Lincoln after a manner that has no counterpart in ancient or modern times. As befitting the man's personality this memorial will be no gorgeous panthon, no splendid tomb—only the log cabin in which he was born and which will be sheltered by a more or less ungarnished building of Tennessee marble erected on the spot of his birth near Hodgenville, Kentucky.

Simple as are the plans it is believed that the Lincoln Farm Memorial will have such a significance and endurance as to make it a Mecca for American citizens so long as the republic lasts. Should this nation swing away so far as to entirely forget early traditions—justice, piety and honesty—the memorial would still be a curiosity, and, even then, would perchance be a moral stimulus to a decadent progeny.

When the organizers of the Lincoln Farm association rescued the old plantation from various promoters, department store owners and whisky agents who wanted to use the place for a mercantile asset they were somewhat at a loss to know exactly what to do with it. The task of beautifying one hundred and ten acres meant a tremendous expenditure and long delay in completion.

The committee gave very vague instructions to bidders for the work and the man who won—John Russel Pope of New York—succeeded principally because he combined sentiment with craftsmanship. He did not attempt to adorn the whole territory, nor yet to construct a single magnificent cenotaph. What he did was to portion off a strip of land one thousand feet long at the farm's western corner which will be screened from the other landscape by hedges and poplar trees. Eventually, when funds are sufficient, it is intended to beautify the whole area, making it a national show place. But when President Roosevelt dedicates the spot next year, that being the one hundredth anniversary of Lincoln's birth, the visitor will see about what is depicted in the accompanying photographs.

Features of Memorial.

Facing each other, with an intervening space of six hundred feet, are the memorial proper and a marble column, fifty feet high. The latter marks the precise spot where the cabin stood, while the cabin itself will repose in a court of the building, protected by a hermetically sealed covering of glass. To give a semblance of nature it is designed to plant grass in the space surrounding the cabin that separates it from the railing.

When the architect cast around for building material he very speedily discovered that the super-quality light gray marble quarried in Tennessee was better than any other, being indigenous, beautiful and practically imperishable. Moreover, it is near at hand. Both memorial and shaft will, therefore, be constructed of this stone. Likewise the statue directory in front of the grand approach, the character of which has not been determined.

The building complete, steps, porch, reception room and cabin court, is, roughly estimating, half the size of the White House. Above the entrance will be engraved Lincoln's deathless sentiment: "With charity toward all, with malice toward none," and above that a dedication to show that the memorial was erected with funds freely subscribed by the American people as units and not by a government appropriation.

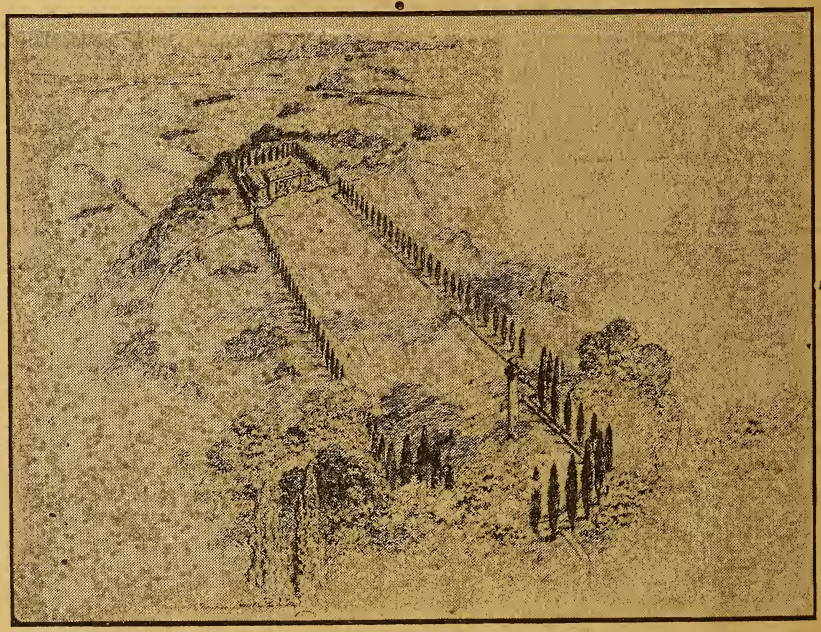
This last element in furthering the project has served to bring forth the full extent of Lincoln enthusiasm and appreciation for his life work and sacrifice, in a way that no other method would have done. Already there has been received at the association's headquarters in New York nearly a room full of letters representing the entire gamut of a great nation's populace. Those from poor people far exceed those from the rich. Many take joy in recounting their poverty; the conditien of others again may be even more accurately judged by the quality of the stationery. Widows, children in orphans' homes, veteran sailors and soldiers, even tramps, have contributed their mite and written sentiments, some of which are classical. In order that the name of every donator may be handed down to posterity, a large space has been set aside at the north end of the building for a voluminous cabinet. Parts of this have already been set up in the New York headquarters, No. 74 Broadway, each contributor having a card on which is inscribed his name, occupation and address.

Board of Trustees.

A board of trustees which, after various revisions, has become permanent, has been selected as follows:

President, Joseph W. Folk; treasurer, Clarence H. Mackay; secretary, Richard Lloyd Jones; chairman of the executive committee, Robert J. Collier; assistant treasurer and general manager, Frederick R. Pierce; Horace Porter, William Travers Jerome, Jenkin Lloyd Jones, Charles A. Towne, Edward M. Shepard, Samuel Gompers, William H. Taft, August Belmont, Samuel L. Clemens, Lyman J. Gage, Ida M. Tarbell, Norman Hapgood, Joseph H. Choate, Henry Watterson, Cardinal Gibbons, Albert Shaw, Thomas Hastings, Oscar S. Strauss.

In proportion to population New York state thus far leads the van in contributions to the Lincoln Farm memorial. Next comes Massachusetts; then Pennsylvania. Boston has given more than Philadelphia or Brooklyn. Philadelphia has doubled Pittsburg's donation. Pittsburg is ahead of Buffalo, Cleveland, Cincinnati or St. Louis. Of the southern cities Baltimore is in the lead. Nearly every city and village in America is represented. Gifts of 25 cents—the least amount received—far predominate. The total cost will be over $400,000, of which one-fourth has now been contributed.



GENERAL VIEW OF THE LINCOLN FARM.

As It Will Appear Upon Dedication by President Roosevelt, February 12, 1909.

JURY FIXES VALUE OF FARM ON WHICH LINCOLN WAS BORN AT $11 AN ACRE

Interesting Story of the Birth of the Great Emancipator and the Making of a Public Highway Through the Place.

COURIER-JOURNAL
LOUISVILLE, KY
2-8-1909

Hodgenville, Ky., Feb. 8.—[Special.]—Eleven dollars an acre for the Lincoln farm. That was a jury's valuation of a strip of land off the old homestead in a suit just ended in the Circuit Court here in which it was sought to open up a public passway through the farm.

Behind this suit is to story which connects Thomas Lincoln with the origin of the narrow roadway which is now to be given to the public for the paltry sum of eleven dollars an acre. It is a story which recalls also the circumstances surrounding the birth of Abraham Lincoln.

All that is generally known about the twenty-foot roadway which cuts off a portion of the Lincoln homestead is that it has been here as far back as the memory of the present generation runs. But few there are who know that it was Thomas Lincoln himself who contributed of his few acres of barren land to blaze a way for the early settlers who had taken up homesteads on richer soil, but farther back into the wilderness.

It was on the night of February 12, 1809, so the story goes as it was handed down to the present generation of Creals, Davenports, Cessnas and Enlows, by their ancestors, who were neighbors of the Lincolns, as the name was then spelled, that Thomas Lincoln sought the home of a neighbor, Abraham Enlow, living back of the old Lincoln homestead and asked the use of a horse to come to Hodgenville for a doctor. Ascertaining the nature of the call and learning that Mrs. Lincoln was at home alone, Mr. Enlow tendered his services as well as those of his horse for the errand. A wild night and a long route over the public highway, Thomas Lincoln suggested to Mr. Enlow that the latter shave the distance by taking a shorter route through the Lincoln farm, Lincoln taking the lead and lowering the fences. Mr. Enlow hurried to Hodgenville, procured the services of a physician and on his return home stopped at the Lincoln cabin long enough to learn that a boy, who was afterward named Abe, was born to Mrs. Lincoln.

It is said that as a token of his appreciation of the favor done him by Mr. Enlow on that night, Thomas Lincoln allowed the gaps to remain open and permitted Mr. Enlow to traverse his land in going to and from Hodgenville. Others soon followed the trail blazed by Abraham Enlow and the private passway soon became a public outlet.

Another story is that Thomas Lincoln was too shiftless to close the gaps after they were once down and that the neighbors took advantage of his shiftlessness in using his farm as a shortcut to Hodgenville; but this latter story is not generally credited. And, by way of parenthesis, it can be stated that the story of Thomas Lincoln's shiftlessness has few believers among the present generation, who cite the fact that Thomas Lincoln has been the only man who has ever provided for his family with the yield from the soil of the Lincoln farm. Recently a tenant, Bill Burton, deserted the old farm, which was his for the paying of the taxes, because, as he said, it was too poor to yield enough to satisfy the claims of the State and county each year. Just across the way Mr. Burton is now living and is one of the neighborhood's most prosperous farmers. The neighborhood folks will tell you that the history of the old farm does not bear out the stigma of shiftlessness applied to Thomas Lincoln and say that if Thomas Lincoln was shiftless some of the present day farmers who have tried to earn their living by the sweat of their brow on the old Lincoln homestead are worse than shiftless, and the success of these latter tillers of the soil on productive farms does not bear out the statement.

After the removal of the Lincolns from the old homestead to Knob Creek, which was about the time little Abe was in his sixth year, the farm fell into the hands of a family named Davenport, who, while granting the neighbors the privilege of the use of the farm as a passway, erected gates thereon. The farm has passed into several different hands since the days of Thomas Lincoln, and, though each succeeding owner has permitted the old road to be used for public travel, it has always been done with the understanding that it was still private property, and gates were kept thereon to point to this fact. And, while the present owner, F. F. Collier, has extended the courtesy granted by his predecessors, the neighbors who have used the old passway so long without interference have decided to make assurance doubly sure by getting an order from court setting aside the strip of ground as a public thoroughfare for time immemorial, for, as one of those interested in the roadway said, "we do not know what the hour or day may bring forth in matters pertaining to the Lincoln farm, since recent developments have hoisted it above the sphere of mere commercialism, and we took opportunity by the forelock and appropriated a strip of the old farm to our urgent needs before its soil was pronounced by the American people as too sacred for its beauty to be marred by public traffic."

J. W. LOFT

Knoxville Journal 2-12-09

HOW LINCOLN'S BIRTHPLACE WAS SAVED TO THIS NATION

Mercenary Minded Men Sought it for Commercial Purposes.

COLLIER AS BENEFACTOR

His New Salem Home Was Also Preserved to American Posterity.

CHARACTERISTICS OF MAN

Desire to Learn and Exemplary Character Beacons for Young Men.

Today in all parts of the nation people turn their faces toward the tomb of Abraham Lincoln at Springfield, Ill. It may well be that this ceremony is worldwide and that Americans in all parts of the earth join the celebrators. Among the eminent Illinoisans who form the local committee of the Lincoln centennial association are such distinguished men as former Vice president Adlai E. Stevenson, Chief Justice Fuller of the United States supreme court, Senators Cullom and Hopkins, Speaker Cannon, Governor Deneen, General Manager Melville E. Stone of the Associated Press and other old or new friends of the martyr president equally eminent.

Among those invited to participate in the centenary exercises are the British and French ambassadors, the two recent candidates for the presidency, ex-Secretary Taft and Mr. Bryan. This simple ceremony has become the most widely observed and impressive memorial service ever given to a single man on the American continent if not in the world. But this is by no means the only observation of the Lincoln centenary. Almost equally notable is the celebration at the Lincoln birth place farm, which today is dedicated and thrown open to the public as a national park.

There is little to that Kentucky farm except the fact that Lincoln was born there. It is not much for crops or scenery. There is a rock spring on it and a creek. The muse of history has very little eye either for fertile soil or landscape effects. Battles are usually fought among most uninviting surroundings and the immortals are liable to be born almost anywhere except where we would expect them to be born. If we were choosing a spot for one of the great ones to come into the world we would seek all the modern conveniences and a combination of seashore and mountain to furnish inspiration. That merely proves that we know how to raise crops and blooded stock, but we do not know how to raise great men. This is a branch of gardening that God does not leave to bunglers. Hothouse methods may be all right for forcing plants, but they are a failure for forcing genius.

Birthplace Preserved.

The preservation of this shrine to the memory of Lincoln was made possible by the generosity of Robert J. Collier of Collier's Weekly. There were several enterprising gentlemen who desired possession of the farm for advertising purposes, and had it not been for Mr. Collier one of them probably would have succeeded in his shameless design. Among the bidders was a liquor firm that had already prepared posters announcing "Lincoln Birthplace Whisky." The agents of this firm imbibed too freely of their own wares, which permitted Mr. Collier's representative to steal a march on them and bid in the place before they arrived on the scene for it is a sad and humiliating fact that the farm on which our greatest president was born was allowed to be sold for taxes. This, coupled with the further reflection that but for the interest and patriotism shown by one man this priceless shrine would have been used for selfish and base purposes, should make the American people feel quite proud. When it was too late there would doubtless have been raised a great cry of indignation which would have increased in pitch as the centenary of Mr. Lincoln's birth approached. We are saved from this humiliation by the thoughtfulness of one man—rather of two, for Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones had advocated buying the shrine before Mr. Collier took the matter up. Two men out of over 80,000,000! It is so God finds his agents, even though men are blind.

The birthplace farm is not the only Lincoln shrine saved from a degrading use. The old log building at New Salem in which Lincoln lived and had his store, together with the ground on which the historic village stood, was purchased by Mr. William Randolph Hearst and made a present to the Old Salem Chautauqua, the second largest Chautauqua in America. A whisky firm was also bidding for this to advertise some of its wares. It would seem that the whisky men appreciate the great liberator, whatever may be said for the rest of us.

His New Salem Home.

It is a romantic fact that the only building left of the New Salem in which Mr. Lincoln spent his young manhood is that which he himself occupied. All the rest of the town has disappeared like a dream village, as though with his departure it had performed its function and gone back to the elements, leaving only his cabin as a memento.

At the time Mr. Collier bought "the little farm that raised a man," the historic rock spring from which it took its name had degenerated into a hog wallow, while the cabin in which Lincoln was born had been taken north for show purposes and was housed in a Long Island basement. This was rescued from the blight of commercialism, like the farm, and sent back from its wanderings to rest in honor in its own place. The journey to Kentucky was one of triumph. The little one-room log cabin was escorted to its destination in greater state than most kings and conquerors. The railroads carried it free; the Wanamaker store in New York decorated the car; the governor of Kentucky detailed an officer and four militiamen to escort the old logs through with safety; Mayor Weaver, of Philadelphia, received it with honor; Baltimore, through which Lincoln had to pass in secret to keep from being assassinated, greeted the cabin that gave him birth with speeches of welcome; at Altoona the school children decked the car with flowers; at Pittsburg the Grand Army took it in charge; at Columbus the mayor and superintendent of schools made stirring addresses; at Indianapolis appropriate exercises were held, and at Louisville former Vice-President Stevenson spoke for the state of Illinois and Henry Watterson for the state of Kentucky. One of the striking utterances of Colonel Watterson, who was introduced as "the greatest living student of the life of Lincoln," is worthy of reproduction. Of Lincoln the orator said:

"He was inspired of God, for nowhere else could he have acquired that wisdom and virtue. Where did Shakespeare get his genius, Mozart his music? Who wrote the lyric of the Scotch peasant? As God raised up and inspired them, so did He Lincoln. When, a thousand years hence, the truth of history shall have left no room to doubt, no drama will be followed with deeper feeling than that which tells the story of his life and death. God laid his hands upon these rough hewn logs, and they brought forth a nation's hero."

Humble Cabin Historic.

Thus the plain Kentucky cabin, the humblest birthplace of a great soul since the manger of Nazareth, returned to its home to grace the centennial of that advent which had come to earth through its door. Both the farm and the house were turned over by Mr. Collier to an association headed by Joseph W. Folk, of Missouri, and having on its board of trustees such representative men and women as Henry Watterson, Cardinal Gibbons, William H. Taft, Ida M. Tarbell, Jenkin Lloyd Jones, Charles A. Towne, Mark Twain and Albert Shaw. The fund for the work was made a common people's offering, and tens of thousands of these became members and gave each his mite to honor the man who in his origin, words and constant attitude has so signally honored them.

On the farm the little cabin has been placed at the exact spot where it before stood and has been surrounded by a strong and simple edifice, in which it forms the sole exhibit. This building, with its Greek columns, stands upon a hill and is approached by a broad speed of steps leading from a plaza, from which also descends the path to the old spring. The remainder of the farm has been left as before, even to a gnarled apple tree said to be the last of Tom Lincoln's orchard.

Boyhood of Lincoln.

The best account of Lincoln's boyhood I have ever seen was contained in an interview with old Dennis Hanks, which was published in one of the magazines a year or two ago. Dennis Hanks, who did not amount to much in any other way, was Lincoln's cousin and boyhood friend. But he did have eyes, a memory and a tongue. By the use of the three he has left a graphic picture of his playmate and is worthy of note for the picture's sake if for no other reason. Little Abe, it seems, was just a plain, long-legged American boy, who wanted to know everything and who spent most of his spare time in playing pranks, reading every book he could get his hands on, and asking questions. Did you ever see a boy like that? It seems to me I have seen several thousand. It is hardly possible that they will all be presidents, but they are starting right.

Did you ever reflect that it is this very fact of Lincoln's being so like everybody else and yet so different that has endeared him to the heart of the world? He has revealed to us how divine and noble and beautiful this common life can be made. To walk along the way we walk, amid the lust, vexations and annoyances, to meet the hardships and temptations we meet, to be cast down and sad and discouraged like as we are and yet to go through it all with honesty, with truth, with strength and with good nature—that does not sound so difficult or wonderful, and yet that is the very way Lincoln went. The most apparent things about him, even in his boyhood, were his thoroughness, his fidelity to truth and his mental honesty. If he did not believe a thing he said so, whatever its effect on himself. If a problem puzzled him he would dig down to the very roots of it, make it all as clear as daylight to his own mind and then practice on giving it the plainest and simplest statement possible to others.

Lincoln was honest with his own soul. There was not the slightest sham or pretense in his make-up. If Washington could not tell a lie, Lincoln could not think or live one. He simply had to see things as they are, and then his own nature compelled him to live true to what he had seen. The man who finally sums up Lincoln will come to see that four of his chief qualities were truth, logic, love and humor. Simplicity was a fifth and democracy a sixth. He was always approachable and met everybody on terms of equality.

He Couldn't Be Mean.

A seventh trait has been spoken of by Dennis Hanks in the interview already mentioned. "Thar was jist one thing Abe Lincoln didn't know," he said. "He didn't know how to be mean, to do a mean thing or think a mean thought. When God made 'Old Abe' he left that out for other men to divide up among 'em."

"Seems to me now," says the irresponsible Dennis, "I never seen Abe after he was twelve 'at he didn't have a book in his hand or in his pocket. He'd put a book inside his shirt an' fill his pants pockets with corn dodgers an' go off to plow or hoe. When noon come he'd set under a tree an' read an' eat. An' when he come to the house at night he'd tilt a cheer back by the chimbley, put his feet on the rung an' set on his backbone an' read. Aunt Sairy always put a candle on the mantel tree piece fur him if she had one. An' as like as not Abe 'd eat his supper thar, takin' anything she'd give him that he could gnaw at an' read at the same time. I've seen many a feller come in an' look at him, Abe not knowin' anybody was round, an' sneak out ag'in like a cat an' say, 'Well, I'll be darned!' It didn't seem natural, nohow, to see a feller read like that."

His Desire to Learn.

Lincoln's insatiable craving to know things did not manifest itself alone in a desire to read. Every stranger that came to the house would be questioned by the youngster until the elder Lincoln interfered. He was as persistent a questioner as Li Hung Chang. When Robert Owen's colony was started at New Harmony, Ind., young Abraham almost worried himself sick because he heard there was a boat load of books along, and he wanted to break into this paradise of knowledge. Books were not plentiful in Indiana in those days, and the future president was known to walk for miles or work for days for the poor privilege of buying or borrowing one. That was the poverty the boy felt most.

One more quotation from the garrulous Dennis and we leave him. It is anent the Lincoln stories:

"'Abe,' says I, 'whar did you get so blamed many lies?' And he'd always say: 'Denny, when a story I'arns you a good lesson it ain't no lie. God tells truths in parables. They're easier fur common folks to understand an' ricolect.' His stories was like that."

Most writers on Lincoln insist on describing his dress, dwelling on the fact that his trousers did not meet his shoes, that his coat was too small, if he had a coat, and generally making his habiliments as ridiculous as a rather lively imagination will permit. This is scarcely fair. Lincoln dressed fully as well as those with whom he associated. Indeed, the lively Dennis says that Abe had more pride than the other children and therefore indulged the unusual luxury of white shirts for Sunday. Awkward he perhaps was, but that he was the lout sometimes pictured was farthest from the truth. Indeed, he was regarded as the brightest and most ambitious boy in the neighborhood.

Omnivorous Reader.

Such an omnivorous reader was Lincoln that he actually walked miles to borrow a grammar in order that he might read that. He doubtless would have read the Congressional Record if he could have got it.

Dennis said Abe never got over the miserable way his mother died, and added:

"I reckon it was thinkin' o' Nancy an' things she'd said to him that started Abe to studyin' that next winter. * * * 'Abe,' she'd say, 'you I'arn all you kin an' be some account,' an' she'd tell him stories about George Washington an' say that Abe had just as good Virginny blood in him as Washington. Maybe she stretched things some, but it done Abe good."

Here is more from the same source:

"'Denny,' Abe 'd say, 'the things I want to know is in books. My best friend's the man who'll get me one.'"

The following, too, is from Dennis, still quoting Abe:

"'Pap thinks it ain't polite to ask folks so many questions,' he'd say. 'I reckon I wasn't born to be polite. There's so darned many things I want to know. An' how else am I going to git to know 'em?'"

Lincoln's Beginnings.

At various times in his life Abraham Lincoln was a laborer, a merchant and a merchant's clerk, a surveyor, a soldier, a lawyer and a public official. Incidentally he was a lecturer, a writer for newspapers and otherwise a flatboatman, a carpenter's assistant and some other things that I forget and he probably tried to. He never was an editor, and yet he wrote heavy editorials (I wonder why they are always called heavy editorials) for the Sangamon Journal. He also wrote humorous communications, one of which almost got him into a duel. Some of the victims of modern humorists regret that the duel has gone out of vogue.

As a laborer Lincoln worked on a farm, split rails, mythical and otherwise; helped run a raft down the Mississippi on two or three occasions, did a little carpentering for his father, which has been an honorable trade since the days of one Joseph in Nazareth; helped the women about the house and generally made himself useful and popular. A useful man is apt to be popular, provided he is not too conscious of his usefulness, especially so if he can tell stories and is a good fellow. Lincoln could do the one and was the other. There is no record that he drank whisky, used tobacco or swore to excess, but one can be a good fellow without any of these accomplishments notwithstanding the popular hallucination to the contrary. A man who has to depend on such extraneous helps to make himself seem a good fellow is weak in the role. Lincoln was a thorough law student, although he did not probe for precedents so much as most lawyers. He was strongest in a case that involved abstract justice, that required original reasoning and that hinged on some question of moral law or human rights. At such times he was invincible. He would also read up his case in the books if necessary, but he could not successfully turn his face to the past and depend on the dictum of dead men. He was a great jury lawyer, but his numerous victories in the supreme court of Illinois testified that he was likewise successful before judges.

Overlooked the Trivial.

One of the most conspicuous of Lincoln's characteristics was his neglect of the trivial and inconsequential. Mere formal things did not interest him. The nonessential he brushed aside as though it did not exist. Point after point he conceded as of no importance. He drove straight to the heart of the question, and there he won his fight if at all. He found the nub of the matter, and there he hung. Nobody could be more firm and unyielding on a point he considered vital. None could be more conciliatory and pliable on mere matters of every day.

One other notable trait in Lincoln the lawyer was his neglect to charge large fees. His bills were always moderate, so much so that he created murmurs among his brother attorneys. The desire for gain in a money way seemed totally lacking in his makeup. Often with poor clients he would accept nothing at all. At other times his charges were nominal. In the vast majority of cases they seemed pitifully small, even for his own day. Lincoln was a first class lawyer, universally so recognized, one of the best at the Illinois bar. He was retained in some of the biggest cases and by some of the largest interests in the state. His moderate fees, therefore, were unnecessary. They grew out of the very temperament and nature of the man.

He Was "On the Square."

By far the most notable trait in Lincoln as a lawyer, however, was his unwillingness to take an unjust case. In numerous instances he refused outright to enter into such suits. At other times, if he found he was on the wrong side, the spirit seemed to go out of him, and he would practically let the case go by default or would deliberately handle it in such a way that it was sure to be decided against him. I know the sophistry that will be advanced in some quarters against such a course. With Lincoln it was not a matter for argument. It was simply a physical and moral impossibility for him to stand for a thing he thought unjust. It inhered in his very heart and soul. The lies of ten million sophists and special pleaders could not have changed him.

His service in congress did not begin till 1847, six years after he left the legislature. That it was so long delayed was not his fault. He tried to get in earlier, but there were too many other able and ambitious men in his district. As a result three or four of them had to take "turn about," and Lincoln's turn came last.

EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, on the 22nd day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, a proclamation was issued by the president of the United States, containing among other things, the following, to-wit:

"That on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three all persons held as slaves within any state or designated part of a state, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall then be, thenceforward and forever free, and the executive government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons and will do no act or acts to repress such persons, or any of them, in any efforts they may make for their actual freedom.

"That the executive will, on the first day of January aforesaid, by proclamation, designate the state and parts of states, if any, in which the people thereof, respectively, shall then be in rebellion against the United States; and the fact that any state, or the people thereof, shall on that day be, in good faith, represented in the congress of the United States by members chosen thereto at elections wherein a majority of the qualified voters of such state shall have participated, shall, in the absence of strong countervailing testimony, be deemed conclusive evidence that such state, and the people thereof, are not then in rebellion against the United States."

Now, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, president of the United States, by virtue of the power in me vested as commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the United States in time of actual armed rebellion against authority and government of the United States, and as a fit and necessary war measure for suppressing said rebellion, do, on this first day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and in accordance with my purpose so to do, publicly proclaimed for the full period of 100 days, from the day first above mentioned, order and designate, as the states and parts of states wherein the people thereof respectively are this day in rebellion against the United States, the following, to-wit:

Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, (except the parishes of St. Bernard, Plaquemines, Jefferson, St. Johns, St. Charles, St. James, Ascension, Assumption, Assenbonne, Lafourche, St. Mary, St. Martin and Orleans, including the city of New Orleans), Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia (except the 48 counties designated as West Virginia, and also the counties of Berkley, Acomac, Northampton, Elizabeth City, York, Princess, Ann and Norfolk, including the cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth); and which excepted parts are for the present left precisely as if this proclamation were not issued.

And by virtue of the power, and for the purpose aforesaid, I do order and declare that all persons held as slaves within said designated states, and parts of states, are, and henceforth shall be free; and that the executive government of the United States, including the military and naval authorities thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of said persons.

And I hereby enjoin upon the people so declared to be free to abstain from all violence, unless in necessary self-defense; and I recommend to them that, in all cases when allowed, they labor faithfully for reasonable wages.

And I further declare and make known that such persons of suitable condition will be received into the armed service of the United States to garrison forts, positions, stations, and other places, and to man vessels of all sorts in said service.

And upon this act, sincerely believed to be an act of justice, warranted by the constitution, upon military necessity, I invoke the considerate judgment of mankind and the gracious favor of Almighty God.

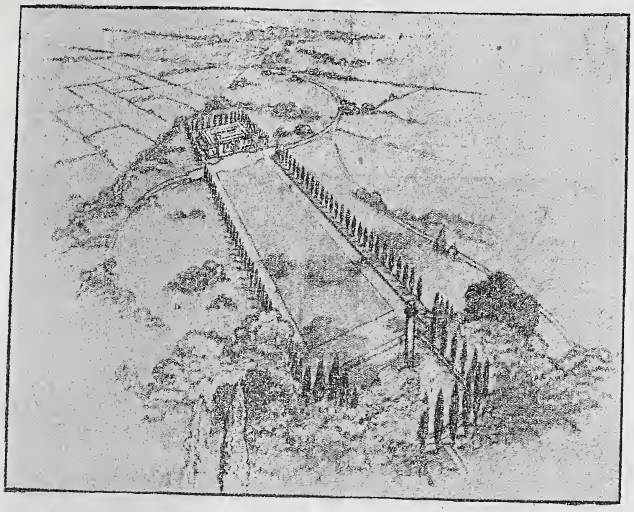
In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington this first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the independence of the United States of America the eighty-seventh.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the president: William H. Seward, secretary, of state.

Jan. 1, 1863.



ACCEPTED PLAN FOR LINCOLN FARM MEMORIAL.

A bird's-eye view of the nation's tribute to be placed upon "the little farm that raised a man," commemorating the centennial of Abraham Lincoln's birth. At one end of the plaza will stand Memorial Hall, at the other end a shaft will mark the ground on which the birthplace cabin originally stood.

—Collier's Weekly.

LINCOLN FARM A SHRINE.

Progress of Plans for Museum at President's Birthplace.

Great souls are rarer than centuries. Out from the heritage of time there stand three to whose memory, as to a shrine, every true American pays homage. These three are Columbus, who alone defied the ridicule of all mankind and set out on an unknown sea to find a world; Washington, who built a free government that should safeguard the liberties of men; and Lincoln, who lived that this government of the people, by the people and for the people might not perish from the earth.

No future historian will ever have the temerity to estimate Abraham Lincoln, the savior of our nation, as the least of this great trio. Like Columbus and Washington, he looms higher and greater in the perspective of time. He was the gentlest of all great souls. We are to-day only twelve months away from the centennial of Abraham Lincoln's birth.

Recognizing the patriotic significance of this centennial, a group of American citizens two years ago organized and incorporated under the laws of the State of New York the Lincoln Farm Association, which purposed to make of Lincoln's humble

CONGE

Hodgenville cabin preserved

Harper's Weekly, November 25, 1911.

Lincoln's Birthplace Preserved

We owe chiefly to ROBERT J. COLLIER and CLARENCE MACKAY the preservation of one of the most interesting historical objects this country can ever contain—the log cabin in Kentucky in which, in 1809, ABRAHAM LINCOLN was born. It is told on page 10 how the cabin had been taken from its site and dragged about the country as a show and how THOMAS LINCOLN'S old farm had been sold for taxes and was about to become a catch-penny show-place, too, when Mr. COLLIER'S attention was called to the matter, and through his paper he started the Lincoln Farm Association, of which Mr. MACKAY became treasurer. The association raised $383,000. The farm was bought back, the cabin recovered and put back where it belonged, and the granite memorial built over it of which we give a picture. It was a work worth doing and well done. The windowless hut in which LINCOLN was born greatly appeals to the American mind. It is a democratic inspiration to us and will be to posterity, and for them and ourselves we record our thanks to Mr. COLLIER and Mr. MACKAY and their associates.

THE LINCOLN LOG CABIN

KNOXVILLE, IOWA, JOURNAL

That at Hodgensville, Kentucky Declared to be a Fake.

3. 13. 1924

Hundreds of thousands of articles have been written and probably an equal number of steel engravings, photographs and postcards printed, describing and depicting a one-room log cabin, said to have been the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln. Today that poor imitation of a human habitation is enshrined in a costly notional memorial as well as in the hearts of the people of the United States. To the patriotic people of this country and to all the liberty loving people of other lands, it is as sacred as the Kaaba stone at Mecca is to the followers of Mohomet.

Prior to being ensconced in its present resting place, where it will doubtless endure for centruries, it was on public exhibition in Chicago and other cities for some years. Later it became the property of a syndicate and was exhibited at the World's Fair in St. Louis in 1904. At that place, where it was viewed by probably two or three million people. a large stucco building was erected over it and a ten or 25 cent admission fee was charged by the owners, who had a Mr. Snow, of Davenport, Iowa, in charge as custodian.

The writer made several visits inside the stucco shell that enclosed the sacred relic and is free to confess that he reverently "patted" the old logs and door jams, to say nothing of lingering long and pensively around the old stick-and-clay chimpey, where little Abe is said to have played in the corners where the fireplace joined on the cabin proper.

And now comes Clifton M. Nichols, the writer of a very readable "Life of Abraham Lincoln" who bluntly says, on page 18: "* * * * The Lincoln family occupied the cabin on Nolin's creek for a period of four years after little Abraham's birth, then they removed to the eastern end of the country. The farm upon which Abraham was born passed into the hands of other and more energetc owners. The humble cabin was torn down and the materials used in its construction were utilized elsewhere, and ultimately destroyed in the manner common to the section and period. Later a more pretentious residence was constructed upon the site, it, too, built of logs.

At a still later period the farm again changed proprietors, and the second cabin was also torn down. (The new owner built his more permanent residence at a different point). The logs used in this second cabin were sold to a neighbor, and a few of them remain at the present time—1896—in a dwelling occupied by a Mr. John A. Davenport, which is located about a mile from the old Lincoln homestead.

For years after the second cabin was torn down the site of the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln was cultivated in common with the surrounding lands, and was marked only by a small mound and a rugged old pear tree which grew thereon.

In the year 1895 the Lincoln farm was purchased by a company of New York speculators who at once began its improvement with a view to selling it to the U. S. Government, to be used as a National park. Many persons believe that the little rude cabin so often seen figured in books and magazines, to be the original Lincoln home, the exact building in which the Great Emancipator was born on Feb. 12, 1809, and certain biographers are given credence to the idea that it is. This, however, is a mistake. The present "historic Lincoln cabin" is only a clever imitation of the original built on the same plan, of logs obtained from a very old, decaying cabin on an adjoining farm."

This "news" as given by Mr. Nichols, and, so far undisputed, will certainly shock all of the Lincoln admirers and collectors of souvenirs of the greatest character of the past century—John W. Wright.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE CROWELL PUBLISHING COMPANY AT SPRINGFIELD, OHIO, U. S. A.

THE SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, $4.00 A YEAR

THE MENTOR

W. D. MOFFAT, Editor

RUTH WOOD THOMPSON, *Assistant Editor*

THE ADDRESS OF EXECUTIVE AND EDITORIAL OFFICES, 250 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY.

THE PRICE OF SINGLE COPIES, 35 CENTS

LEE W. MAXWELL *President* — THOMAS H. BECK *Vice President* — JOHN E. MILLER *Vice President* — ALFRED D. MAYO *Secretary* — ALBERT E. WINGER *Treasurer*

COPYRIGHT 1926 BY THE CROWELL PUBLISHING COMPANY

The Open Letter

SOME time ago we printed a reproduction of the smaller of these two pictures with the title "Lincoln Memorial." From various parts of the country we got letters calling attention to our "error," and reminding us that the Lincoln Memorial was in Washington and that it was altogether a different building from the one shown in our picture.

It seems to me that this is a good reason—and now is a good time—to drive home the fact that there are *two* Lincoln Memorial Buildings; one in Lincoln's birthplace, Hodgenville, Kentucky, and one in Washington, D. C. Here are the facts about them:

Above, Lincoln Memorial, Kentucky; *Below*, Memorial at Washington

In April, 1904, Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones of Chicago preached a sermon entitled "A Neglected Shrine," calling on the nation to rescue the Lincoln farm and make it a national possession. Dr. Jones' son, Richard, at that time on the editorial staff of Collier's, brought this matter to the attention of Mr. Robert Collier, who approved the suggestion and sent Mr. Jones to Kentucky to learn the facts about the farm. He learned that it was to be sold by court order—and it was so sold on Monday, August 28th, of that year. Mr. Jones bought it for Robert Collier for the sum of $3,600. The cabin in which Lincoln was born was not then standing in its place, the logs having been purchased by an exhibitor, who set them up in various cities and then stored them at Stamford, Connecticut.

These were purchased and taken back to Kentucky and reërected in their original form as nearly as could be determined. The Lincoln Farm Association, organized for the ownership of Lincoln's birthplace, then appealed for contributions to erect a memorial to protect the log building and improve the grounds.

The response was immediate and generous. Thousands of school children sent small sums and men of means gave larger amounts. More than 70,000 persons contributed sums varying from 25 cents to $25. On February 12, 1909, just a hundred years after the birth of Lincoln, President Theodore Roosevelt laid the corner stone of the imposing granite memorial. The building stands on an elevation, and is reached by a long flight of broad granite steps. It is empty except for the treasure it guards—the original log cabin in which Lincoln was born. The building was completed in a little more than two years, and was dedicated by President Taft, November 9, 1911. The architect was John Russell Pope. The Lincoln Farm was accepted for the nation by President Wilson on September 4, 1916.

✣ ✣ ✣

The other memorial stands in the city of Washington and is the most costly monument ever erected by a republic to the memory of one of its citizens. The money was appropriated by the Government and totaled more than $2,000,000. The corner stone was laid February 12, 1915; the architect was Henry Bacon.

The memorial was dedicated May 30, 1922. President Harding delivered the principal address, and Edwin Markham's poem was read—a poem selected from two hundred and fifty submitted in competition. The chairman of the committee making the selection and having charge of the exercises was Chief Justice William Howard Taft.

W. D. Moffat
Editor

RICHARD L. JONES SAVED LINCOLN'S BIRTHPLACE

Compiled by HERBERT WELLS FAY, *Custodian of Lincoln's Tomb.*

About the time of the hundredth anniversary of Lincoln's birth, the writer happened to be in the Frank Morris book shop, Chicago, where in those days the Lincoln enthusiasts were accustomed to congregate. Rev. Jenkins Lloyd Jones of Lincoln centre, soon joined the group. His exclamation always was "What's new in the Lincoln line?" He was told that the Lincoln birthplace was soon to be sold at sheriff's sale. He replied that he had a date in Louisville in a few days and that he would go out to Hodgenville, some sixty miles south and look up the matter. He found bills posted announcing the sale. On returning to Chicago, he wrote a magazine article giving the American people a scathing rebuke for such neglect. The warning was largely copied by the press of the country. Dr. Jones' article fell into the hands of his son Richard Lloyd Jones, then assistant editor of Collier's Weekly, under Norman Hapgood who had just written a life of Lincoln. It would not be difficult to imagine the effect such a notice would have on two literary men of such training and associations, they decreed that something must be done and it was their duty to start the movement. They put the proposition before their superior, Robert Collier, a man of great wealth and enterprise.

Mr. Collier gave Richard Lloyd Jones the power of attorney and instructed him to go west and attend the sale, and bid off the property.

He stayed all night at country hotel near the birthplace. There he overheard two men who were enroute for Hodgenville to attend the sale. They were planning to buy the property, make it into a beer garden and as they said clean up a million dollars.

Jones on the morning hastens to the place and urges the sheriff to hurry the sale so that he could take the next train for the east. The sheriff has a little leeway in such matters. The sale was called promptly and Jones bid off the farm, 100 acres, for $3,600.

On his way to town he met the friends of the night before and said:

"Which way, neighbors?"

"Going out to the Lincoln farm sale."

"Sales all over and I have the deed right in my pocket."

Jones returned to New York and Robert J. Collier organized the "Lincoln Farm Association" and turned over his equity in the land to this organization. A campaign was put on and about $250,000 raised mainly from the school children of the various states and the birthplace log cabin, was enclosed in a granite memorial to be preserved for all time.

The corner stone was laid Feb. 12, 1909, by President Theodore Roosevelt. The building was dedicated by President Wm. Howard Taft on the one hundreth anniversary of Lincoln's birth and the farm was formally accepted as a national shrine by President Woodrow Wilson, Sept. 4, 1916.

Richard Lloyd Jones is now (1933) editor of the Tulsa Tribune, Tulsa, Oklahoma, and has never received credit due for his part in saving Lincoln's birthplace. He and Robert J. Collier deserve th gratitude of the world for their achievement.

LINCOLN LORE

Bulletin of the Lincoln National Life Foundation - - - - - - Dr. Louis A. Warren, Editor.
Published each week by The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, of Fort Wayne, Indiana.

No. 216 FORT WAYNE, INDIANA May 29, 1933

LINCOLN LOG CABINS

A great world's fair in America would be incomplete without one or more Lincoln cabins on display. Although there is no original home of the Lincolns being shown at the Century of Progress Exposition, there are several replicas of buildings associated with the life of the president. The opening of the exhibition invites a brief review of the Lincoln cabins which have become famous by having often been reproduced in replica and made familiar by photographic copies.

Cabins Occupied by Abraham Lincoln

Lincoln Birthplace Cabin

The most famous of all the Lincoln log cabins is the one preserved in the memorial building at Hodgenville, Kentucky. It is doubtful if any other birthplace home in the country has become so universally known and recognized by all classes of people as has the log cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born.

The itinerary of this cabin was a long one and its removal from place to place began shortly after Lincoln was elected to the presidency. An admirer of Lincoln living about one mile north of the birthplace farm acquired the famous cabin early in the sixties and moved it to his own farm property where it served for a time as a school house. Someone saw the show value of the old pile of logs, purchased it, and exhibited it at the Tennessee Centennial at Nashville in 1894. Central Park, New York, was the next site chosen for its reconstruction and the one hundred and forty-three logs, properly marked and numbered, were assembled there.

The preliminary announcements and illustrative data with reference to the Lincoln cabin exhibited at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis is rather confusing if an identification is attempted from the sources available. One press report states it was "the cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born"; another version of the story represents it as being "the old log cabin he lived in when a child from 1813 to 1816," and an illustrated publication of the fair shows a likeness of the Coles County, Illinois, cabin as the one being exhibited.

We next find the Lincoln cabin stored away in Stamford, Connecticut, after having made an extensive itinerary about the country. While in storage it was acquired by the Lincoln Farm Association and removed to New York for safer storage facilities.

On Wednesday, June 6, 1906, it began its famous trip back to Kentucky to be the feature attraction for the Kentucky Old Home Week celebration at Louisille. The Governor of the state detailed a detachment of five men from the militia to escort the cabin from New York to Kentucky. Its transportation was provided by the Pennsylvania Railroad and the car on which it was moved was beautifully decorated. At Philadelphia, Baltimore, Harrisburg, Pittsburgh, Columbus, and Indianapolis it was received by the mayors of the respective cities and elaborate ceremonies were conducted at each place. Upon arrival at Louisville a program was arranged in its honor and it was displayed at Central Park.

After the celebration at Louisville it went into storage there until 1909 when it was shipped to Hodgenville and placed on the original site for the centennial celebration of Lincoln's birth at which time the cornerstone of the memorial building was laid. Back to Louisville it went after the celebration to go into storage again and it remained there until 1911 when it was finally rebuilt within the Lincoln Memorial Building on the birthplace farm where it will remain until it crumbles away.

The Lincoln Childhood Cabin

Abraham Lincoln's second home was a cabin on Knob Creek about ten miles north of the birthplace cabin. The Lincolns occupied this cabin from 1811 to 1816. In 1895 a correspondent of a newspaper wrote about the Knob Creek cabin as follows: "Nothing is left of the old cabin but part of the great stone fireplace. A number of the logs that made up the poor home have been used by Charles Rapier, the present owner of the farm, in building a stable."

The Cabin of Lincoln's Youth

Many confusing stories are in circulation about the disposition of the cabin occupied by the Lincoln's in Indiana. Very fortunately several pictures of the cabin were taken while it was still standing. It was sold by the owners of the Lincoln farm in 1871 and at that time still occupied the original site. There seems to be no dependable eivdence as to just what became of this old cabin after it was taken down by a man in Evansville who had purchased it.

The Macon County, Illinois Cabin

This is the last of the cabin homes in which Abraham Lincoln lived with his people, and he resided in it but a very short time. This cabin, more often associated with John Hanks who helped to build it, had an extensive itinerary arranged for it. It was exhibited on Boston Common from July 15 to September 9, 1865, and at Barnum's Museum, New York City, from September 18 until the last of October, the same year. It is said to have been lost at sea while enroute to England.

Cabins Associated with Lincoln's Father

The Lincoln Marriage Cabin

Many Washington County, Kentucky, citizens still believe that Abraham Lincoln was born in the same cabin in which his parents were married, although the residence of the Lincolns in Hardin County in 1809 is established by documents. The cabin in which Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks were married is now enshrined in a memorial building at Harrodsburg, Kentucky, at least twenty miles from its original site. It is known as the Lincoln marriage cabin.

The Sarah Johnston Cabin

Many of the early biographies show the picture of a tumble down log shed on Race Street in Elizabethtown, Kentucky, as the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln. The Lincoln's never occupied this cabin but it was the home of the widow Johnston previous to her marriage to Thomas Lincoln in 1819. What became of this cabin we do not know although one old citizen says it was shipped away for exhibition purposes.

The Coles County, Illinois Cabin

This cabin of Thomas Lincoln so often confused with the cabin homes of Abraham Lincoln was brought to Chicago by the Abraham Lincoln Log Cabin Association for exhibition at the World's Columbian Exposition in 1893. It was rebuilt in the north annex of the old Exposition Building on the lake front.

Many years ago the following notice appeared in a Chicago paper:

"Personal—Public notice is hereby given to owners and others who may claim an interest in the 'Abraham Lincoln cabin' to remove the same from the premises of Libby Prison War Museum, on Wabash Ave., or it will be sold to pay charges or donated to some historical or other society." According to Mr. Gunther this was the Coles County cabin. Part of it at least was destroyed along with Uncle Tom's Cabin which was stored with it.

CENTURY OF PROGRESS

Replicas of Buildings Associated with Lincoln

Birthplace cabin

Indiana cabin

New Salem Store

Rutledge Tavern

Room in Springfield Home

Chicago Wigwam
Lincoln Group next to Fort Dearborn

Indiana cabin
Horticultural Exhibit

New Salem Store
Food Exhibit

Room in Springfield Home
Illinois Host Building

The Memorial Mansion

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

KENTUCKY

Traditional Lincoln birthplace cabin, (showing door and window)

the purpose of raising by popular subscription funds to purchase the birthplace and make it a national memorial. The 110½ acres now comprising the historical park were purchased for the Lincoln Farm Association in 1905, although title did not pass to the Association until 1907. On April 16, 1916, the Lincoln Farm Association deeded its holdings to the United States of America.

The Memorial Building, designed by John Russell Pope and built of Connecticut pink granite and Tennessee marble, was constructed by the Lincoln Farm Association in the years 1909-1911 through funds raised by popular subscription. Over 100,000 citizens, many of them school children, contributed to this fund. The cornerstone of the building was laid by President Theodore Roosevelt on February 12, 1909, the one hundredth anniversary of Lincoln's birth. The chief address at the dedication of the building on November 9, 1911, was delivered by President Taft. When the area, together with its improvements, was deeded to the United States in 1916, President Wilson journeyed to the site and made the acceptance speech in behalf of the Government and of the people of the United States.

How to Reach the Park

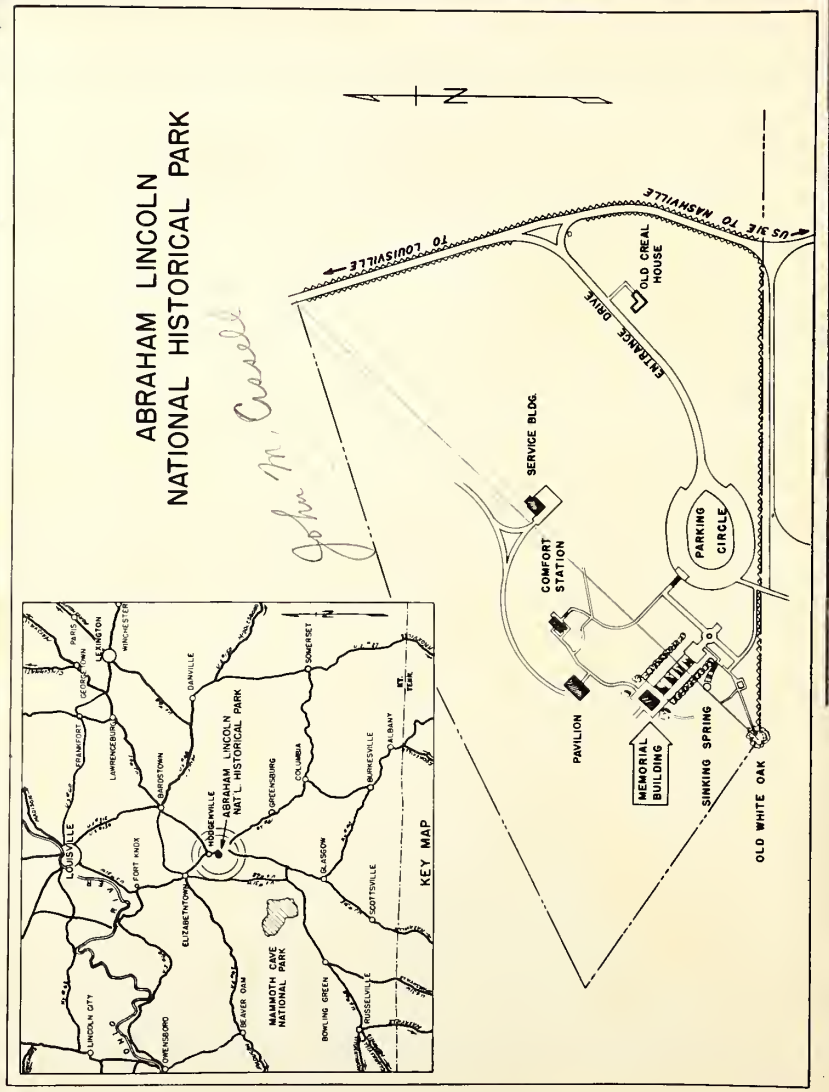
The Abraham Lincoln birthplace is situated approximately 3 miles south of Hodgenville, Ky., on U. S. highways No. 31E and No. 68, the main traveled road running from south to north through Tennessee and Kentucky, from Nashville to Louisville, to Bardstown, and on into the heart of the Blue Grass at Lexington. Transcontinental highway U. S. No. 60 intercepts U. S. highway No. 31W at Fort Knox, about 30 miles north of Hodgenville.

Service to the Public

The birthplace farm and Memorial Building are open to visitors daily. Attendants are on duty at the latter place. Organizations and groups will be given special service if arrangements are made in advance with the Superintendent.

Administration

The park is administered by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. Communications concerning the park should be addressed to the Superintendent, Abraham Lincoln National Historical Park, Hodgenville, Ky.



50M 5-1-41
CULLOM & GHERTNER CO., NASHVILLE, TENN.

The Memorial Mansion

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

KENTUCKY

ABRAHAM LINCOLN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

United States Department of the Interior

Harold L. Ickes, Secretary

National Park Service, Newton B. Drury, Director

On a raw frontier farm of rolling land on the edge of "the Barrens," in the cabin by the Sinking Spring, was born the man whose strides carried him awkwardly, yet majestically, over a path which began in common Kentucky clay and ended in immortality. Here was born the man who said, "Why should there not be a patient confidence in the ultimate justice of the people? Is there any better or equal hope in the world?" Here a great life began. More enduring than bronze or marble, this spot shall speak its message of the mystery and majesty of life to Americans down through the ages.

The Lincoln Family

In the midst of the Indian wars and raids at the close of the Revolution the Lincoln family moved to the frontier region of Kentucky. The father of Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President, was Thomas Lincoln; his grandfather was Abraham, for whom he was named; and his great-grandfather was John Lincoln. This John Lincoln had moved from near Reading, Pa., to the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, and his son, Abraham, together with his family moved across the mountains into Kentucky sometime between 1782 and 1784. Here Abraham, the grandfather, was killed by an Indian from ambush. This event probably occurred in May, 1786. Thomas, the youngest son, was then about 10 years old.

About 1800 Thomas Lincoln settled down in Elizabethtown and during the next few years was a hard working and industrious man of that community, acquiring a reputation as a carpenter.

On June 10, 1806, Thomas Lincoln filed a declaration of intention to marry Nancy Hanks, and two days later, on June 12, 1806, they were married by the Rev. Jesse Head. The newly married couple made their home in Elizabethtown. Here their first child, Sarah, was born in 1807.

The image of Nancy Hanks is blurred and uncertain to us of this generation. One authority has said of her, "dim as the dream of a shifting mirage, her face and figure waver through the mists of time and rumor." Although her physical features left no definite impression upon the minds of those who years later tried to recall her image, there is an almost unanimous agreement among these witnesses concerning her mental and spiritual attributes. That she was possessed of a fine native intelligence, of courage, and of a morality above reproach, that she was kind and affectionate, seems fairly clear.

The Birthplace of Abraham Lincoln

On December 12, 1808, Thomas Lincoln bought for $200 in cash a 300-acre farm, known as the Sinking Spring Farm, situated a few miles south of Hodgen's Mill. Here, he and his wife and their infant daughter took up their abode in a one room log cabin near a large limestone spring of cool water which had given its name to the place. It was in this one room log cabin near the Sinking Spring that the child, Abraham, was born to Thomas and Nancy Hanks Lincoln on February 12, 1809.

The Lincolns lived at the birthplace site, which eventually was lost to them because of a defective land title, about two and a half years. Prior to midsummer in 1811 they moved to a farm on Knob Creek, about 10 miles to the northeast. Their residence here lasted only a few years, for in November or December 1816, Thomas Lincoln left Kentucky and made a new home in the wilderness settlement of Little Pigeon Creek, about 16 miles north of the Ohio River, in Indiana. Nancy Hanks Lincoln, the mother of Abraham, lived only about 2 years after the removal to Indiana. An epidemic came to the little settlement on Pigeon Creek and, while attending to the stricken, she herself was taken ill and died within a week, on October 5, 1818. The mother of Abraham Lincoln was buried in an unmarked grave in a little clearing in the midst of the deep woods.

The Park

Abraham Lincoln National Historical Park comprises 110½ acres of land, nearly 100 acres of which were included in the original Thomas Lincoln farm. Here are situated the Memorial Building housing the traditional Lincoln birthplace log cabin, the Sinking Spring, the ancient boundary oak tree which was a landmark at the time of Lincoln's birth, and the old Creal House, a log structure, part of which is over 100 years old. The Lincoln birthplace was deeded to the United States Government in 1916 by the Lincoln Farm Association. Since 1933 it has been administered by the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior.

The Birthplace Cabin

The log cabin in the Memorial Building is the traditional birthplace cabin. It is impossible to say with certainty that it is the original cabin. From 1861 to the present time the history of the log cabin which is now displayed within the Memorial Building is fairly clear. Its history prior to 1861 is a matter of controversy and doubt. Nor is there conclusive evidence concerning the specific location of the original cabin. Certain testimony indicates that it stood on top of the knoll where the Memorial Building is now situated; still other that it stood under the knoll, a short distance from the Sinking Spring, and about on a level with it.

The first individual to become interested in preserving the birthplace cabin was Dr. George Rodman, who, in March, 1861, bought a log cabin standing on the birthplace farm and moved it a little over a mile to the north and reerected it on his own farm. Here it remained until 1894, when it was purchased by a representative of A. W. Dennett of New York and taken back to the Lincoln farm where 110½ acres of land had been purchased about this time by Mr. Dennett. In the succeeding years the cabin was dismantled, the logs carefully marked, and taken to various expositions throughout the country where it was exhibited. Eventually, the cabin was stored in the basement of the old Poffenhausen mansion at College Point, Long Island, N. Y. It remained there until 1906 when it was purchased by the Lincoln Farm Association. It was then taken to Louisville under a military escort where, after being reerected as a feature of the Louisville Homecoming celebration, the cabin again went into storage. In 1909 it was taken temporarily to the birthplace farm for the ceremonies attending the laying of the cornerstone of the Memorial Building. In 1911, upon the completion of this structure, the cabin was taken on the last of its travels back to the site of its origin and reerected within the Memorial Building.

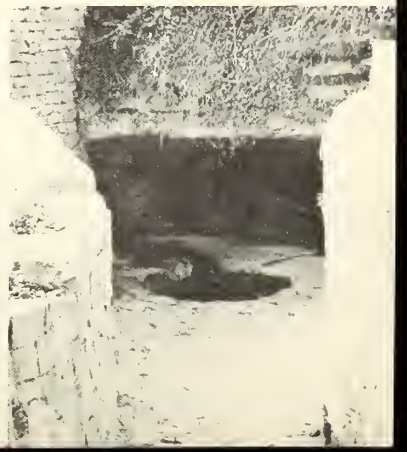
The Memorial Building

In 1904, the Lincoln Farm Association, of which Richard Lloyd Jones, then Managing Editor, and Robert J. Collier, Publisher of *Collier's Weekly*, were the leading members, was formed for

Weinman Statue of Lincoln in Hodgenville

Old boundary white oak, well known landmark at time of Lincoln's birth

The Sinking Spring



the Memorial Building is fairly clear. Its history prior to 1861 is a matter of controversy and doubt. Nor is there conclusive evidence concerning the specific location of the original cabin. Certain testimony indicates that it stood on top of the knoll where the Memorial Building is now situated; still other that it stood under the knoll, a short distance from the Sinking Spring, and about on a level with it.

The first individual to become interested in preserving the birthplace cabin was Dr. George Rodman, who, in March, 1861, bought a log cabin standing on the birthplace farm and moved it a little over a mile to the north and reerected it on his own farm. Here it remained until 1894, when it was purchased by a representative of A. W. Dennett of New York and taken back to the Lincoln farm where 110½ acres of land had been purchased about this time by Mr. Dennett. In the succeeding years the cabin was dismantled, the logs carefully marked, and taken to various expositions throughout the country where it was exhibited. Eventually, the cabin was stored in the basement of the old Poffenhausen mansion at College Point, Long Island, N. Y. It remained there until 1906 when it was purchased by the Lincoln Farm Association. It was then taken to Louisville under a military escort where, after being reerected as a feature of the Louisville Homecoming celebration, the cabin again went into storage. In 1909 it was taken temporarily to the birthplace farm for the ceremonies attending the laying of the cornerstone of the Memorial Building. In 1911, upon the completion of this structure, the cabin was taken on the last of its travels back to the site of its origin and reerected within the Memorial Building.

The Memorial Building

In 1904, the Lincoln Farm Association, of which Richard Lloyd Jones, then Managing Editor, and Robert J. Collier, Publisher of *Collier's Weekly*, were the leading members, was formed for

Old boundary white oak, well known landmark at time of Lincoln's birth

The Sinking Spring

LINCOLN CABIN NOTES

John Davenport Interview

Two or three schools taught in cabin, John Davenport's wife one year, Ruell E. Davenport one year.

About fifty pupils attended subscription school taught by John's wife. Henry Davenport in school.

The following people lived in Lincoln Cabin : Mrs. All Walters and daughter, Mrs Bettie Bailey. Family by name of Harrison lived there shortly after Lincoln's left.

Cleveland and Ivy Davenport sons of John born in cabin. also two sons now dead.

John Davenport went to housekeeping in cabin in 1875 after marying school teacher. Mrs Susan and Bettie Wathen lived in cabin, Also James Dyer and Widow Dyer

Gabe Kirkpatrick taught 3 schools in cabin before Mrs. Davidson.

Dennett gave Davidson $300. for the cabin

Mrs. Burba told me her father Dr. Rodman bought the old cabin in 1863 - 5.

La Rue County Herald notices of cabin

Other Lincoln Farm - March 30, 1903
Lincoln Farm sale - March 5. 1903
Lincoln material - Feb. 13, 1903
Cabins mixed- March 26, 1903
Cabin sold by David Creer to Association $50,000. He bought from Dennette. Feb. 15, 1903
Cabins burned Feb.8, 1806.
Cabin - May 31, 1906
Cabin starts on way to Ky. June 17,1906
Exhibited at Louisville homecoming June 14, 1906
Stored in Louisville June 31, 1906
David Brownfield visited Lincoln in Washington - July 19 ,1906
Early history of Lincoln's parents - June 7, 1906
Lincoln Farm sold Aug. 31, 1905.

143 logs in cabin when moved.

Cave in which Lincoln was lost-Feb. 11, 1809,Nov 25, 1809.

Life at Gethsemanne July 3,1880

The Cost Journey of Lincoln Cabin

From Mauzy's Strong Man House
Provided granted to Old Home week in Kirkland Jan. in Lincoln
Penn RR free transportation
Wanamaker store N.Y. decorated car in National colors
Son of Ky delaware offer and four military men present cabin
Wednesday June 6, 1906 organized trip
Jun 7 Philadelphia, first stop Mayor Weaver address crowd, at 11 am
Jun 8 Baltimore Md. Mayor of city + congressman Sherman pay tribute.
Saturday, Harrisburg + Altoona
Sunday Pittsburg viewed by the people all day Mayor Guthrie welcomed c
mon. Columbus. Mayor Badger + Supt of Schools Schaw an
Indianapolis.
Louisville at auction park. 4 P M Sat June 16
Vice Pres Stevenson + Henry Watterson.
Moves Cabin to Cath Library

Mother would be more specific and reasonable
than the Clown in which Lincoln was born Jos. H Choate

Nicholas. Chapman in "Life of Lincoln

Funeral by Cardinal Gibbons

He doubts originality of cabin